

Maclean's

THE SNEEZING SEASON

Hay fever,
asthma—
and food
allergies—
are making
more and more
Canadians
miserable



7 78624 70001 8



**BRIGHT IDEAS
COME CHEAP.**



**BRILLIANT ONES
COST A LITTLE MORE.**



© 1995 MAG INSTRUMENT INC. 1628 SOUTH WILKINSON AVE. ONTARIO, CALIFORNIA 91761 (800) 847-3709

Maclean's

CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE
JUNE 12 1995 VOL 106 NO 24

CONTENTS

2 EDITORIAL

4 LETTERS

6 OPENING NOTES/PASSAGES

9 COLUMN: FRED BRUNING

10 CANADA

Roy Thomson's brand of socialism plays well in Saskatchewan, the climate-savvy teaching curriculum resurfaces in Abbotsford, B.C., Italika undergoes a G-7 makeover; a court ruling reflects a new trend in sentencing natives.

22 WORLD

30 BUSINESS

Seagram's Edgar Bronfman Jr. justifies a bold change of course to shareholders, a new economic hope in the Northwest Territories, costly company holidays are likely a thing of the past in Ontario.

36 THE BOTTOM LINE: DEBORAH MUMFORD

40 THE NATION'S BUSINESS: PETER C. NEWMAN

42 COVER

50 JUSTICE

52 SPORTS

Jacques Villeneuve finally establishes Canadians in the top ranks of motor racing.

53 AGRICULTURE A Quebecer challenges Ottawa over mad cow disease

54 PEOPLE

56 FILMS

The movie version of *The Design of Michael Ondaatje* is a vast improvement on the book.

57 THEATRE

Ontario's Shaw Festival opens with romantic overtones and characterful complexity.

58 DESIGN

60 BOOKS

Yevgeny Yevtushenko explores the troubled Russian soul, Anne Tyler presents a disaffected wife and mother.

64 FOTTERKINGHAM

COVER STORY: Photographs and design of a modern interior in Toronto, P. 62. Book 1000: From left to right, the 1000th issue of Maclean's magazine and the 1000th issue of the magazine.

The sneezing season

42 As trees and plants discharge pollen into the spring and summer breezes, three million Canadians will be plagued by the aggravating symptoms of hay fever. And hay fever is just one of the allergies—to everything from cats to peanuts—making more and more lives miserable. Meanwhile, growing legions of people are suffering—even dying—from asthma.

Holding the world hostage

22 Amid diplomatic parleys and emergency debates, Western leaders demanded the release of its peacekeepers held hostage in Bosnia. But the Bosnian Serbs threatened to turn the region into "a butcher shop" if any attempt was made to free them by force.



The two faces of Karla Homolka

50 As the prosecution showed graphic, disturbing videos in the murder trial of Paul Bernardo, the public pondered the enigma of Karla Homolka: was she a calculating predator or, on the Crown's allegor, another of Bernardo's victims?



Classy chassis

58 A Montreal museum's exhibit of 20 exceptional cars, from a carriage-like 1886 Benz to a 1950 non-polluting Ford Mustang, has captured the city's artistic community, but clearly delighted the museum-going public. It is one of the most successful shows ever mounted by the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.



LETTERS

'Gruesome details'

I have tried to stay away from any coverage of the trial of José Bernardo, but since I always read *Maduro's*, my hands constantly say the better of me. I can honestly say I have never read anything as revealing and disturbing in my lifetime. "Horrific story," *Cover* May 29. After reading this article, I firmly believe that the public does not need to know the gruesome details of the events that led up to the deaths of these innocent teenagers. I can only say that I will carry what I read with me for a long time and what purpose does that serve? Is there anything to be learned from this coverage? I don't think so. If curiosity killed the cat, then I am inclined that

Journal of Nursing Management, 2001, 9, 103-110

Bernardo: Is there anything to be learned?

Gertrude C. Broadbent,
Corney Brook, N.H.

I have just received my latest issue and must say that a close-up of Paul Bernardo on the cover is a masterpiece of reporting the news. Have we not learned from the O.J. Simpson circus about sensationalizing the criminal? Would it not have been a little more appropriate to put the faces of Leslie Mahaly and Kristen French on the cover? It's bad enough that these crimes occurred; at least let us cherish the memory of the victims.

Dale Giquhart,
Vancouver

As a Canadian studying law in the United States, I found your cover article "North has no say" very interesting. You are technically incorrect, however, with respect to your statement concerning the reading of Miranda warnings upon arrest in the United States. Police are not compelled to tell a suspect that he has the right to remain silent. A suspect, or even an arrested individual, need not be given Miranda warnings unless that individ-

David W. Golden
Chicago, Ill.

So, former Supreme Court of Canada justice Willard L'Heureux thanks that allowing TV commercials into courtrooms may guarantee that the court system remains fair. Unfortunately, such a suggestion is based on a false understanding of the role of television. Its role is not primarily one of education. Its purpose is twofold: to entertain and to act as a vehicle for advertisers.

Mark Satterly
Hewlett-Packard

Highway patrol

The railway in the late 19th century, the telephone in the early 20th century and a comprehensive highway system in the late 20th century have all done two great things: brought people closer together and provided new opportunities for crime and inappropriate behavior. But I don't recall any successful efforts to ensure any of them, just because some portion of their activity was criminal or bad ("Crime in Cyberspace," *Cover*, May 23). I suspect any unmitigated efforts to censor the Internet—the early 21st century analogue to the railway, telephone and highway systems—will be unsuccessful and seem foolish as hindsight.

Robert Slawo
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74103

Making the fur fly

I have great respect for Ken Thomson for discontinuing the sale of furs at the Bay ("The Kingdome of the Bay," *The Nation's Business*, May 25). Just like we do not need any more horses to waste away in undergrazed barns, we don't need furs any longer. Once a necessity, they are now nothing but an expensive fashion for the wealthy. The furless Bay remains far more than a middle-class department store. It is a store with class.

Monika Jayaram,
Calgary

Beholder's eye

I could not believe Barbara Amiel's dourly
columns regarding comments made about
her at a PEN International function ("A taste-
less joke and a moral dilemma," May 29).
Three columns on bad taste, with what?

misrepresenting all the left and right wings, cross-referenced to Amnesty International, Oxfam, the Jesuit order and their "solidarity" and why IVE didn't make Ariel's imprisonment in Mazatlánque the focus of world attention. All this for a size.

Alida Wold
Tulsa, Okla.

Trade-off

Since the election of Prime Minister Jean Chretien's government, I have supported much of what it has accomplished. Yet I could not believe Foreign Affairs Minister Andre Guellet's statement about no longer connecting human rights records with trade ("Unusual alliances,"

Backstage Ottawa, May 20: How reassuring it is to know that as a result of trading goods with certain countries, Overstole denied because of their abhorable record of human-rights abuses, our money can now go towards the purchase of guns, bullets and materials for torture.

Marie Daly,
Toronto

Writing the book

As a former UN peacekeeper who served the cause of peace in 1998 at the end of the Bosnian war, I have been unwilling to see UN military operations channelled to various post-war battles and games in Bosnia ("The UN in chains," *World*, June 5). What has happened is that the UN has become a farm of those who would raise NATO against its sword and clashing it into the heart of the conflict that now rages in the former Yugoslavia. The difficulty is that the UN is not a military force in this sort of operation. Never has the United Nations attempted an operation of this scale, and so the first chapters of the right way to bring an end to the war in Bosnia are to be written. Those who would never see the use of force seen to lack vision: a vision of a time when the United Nations, armed with knowledge and experience, could offer a situation as volatile as Bosnia a way out of its killing orders and into a new dawn.

Angus M. B. Scott
Toronto

[illegible]

Healthy Bites

THE TRUTH About Fibre

Canadians report consuming more fibre. As long as increased fibre intakes are matched with adequate supplies of minerals, this is a healthy trend. Especially since it means we're eating more fruits, vegetables and whole grains.

However, plant foods generally contain phytate and oxalates, naturally occurring substances that reduce the body's ability to absorb essential minerals, specifically calcium. The best advice is to follow Canada's Food Guide to Healthy Eating and eat 2-4 servings of milk products daily. That way, getting the necessary calcium is a sure thing.

I Drink DECAF... Honest!

According to researchers from the Harvard Medical School and Children's Hospital, women who report drinking decaffeinated coffee are more likely to exercise, built-up the car and eat their cashflow.

Another Gender Issue

Women, because the menopause and are more at risk for osteoporosis should be even more careful than men about getting enough iron as calcium. However, not only do women get less calcium and iron, they don't even match their recommended daily intake. This from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, the U.S. Similar observations have been made in Canada.

Labour-Saving Devices and Calories

Why are Canadians gaining weight? Fitness analysts say step-saving devices bear a good part of the blame. TV remote controls, electronic toasters, blenders and grinders, lawnmowers that you ride instead of push, buttons that open garage doors and car windows instead of muscles, etc. — all add up to a lot of calories not burned off in a day.

A Balanced Diet

From the Dairy Bureau of Canada

A TALE ABOUT FOUR OF THE BEST IN THE BUSINESS, BUT THE MOMENT THEY LEAVE THE OFFICE THEY ALL COME...

THE UNREACHABLES

NO ONE CAN GET IN TOUCH WITH THEM AND THEY'RE NOT IN TOUCH WITH ANYONE ELSE

There's always a moral and an ethics angle. It's not an irreducible, zero-sum game with our customers. What Land's End's plans accomplish and when they're available, our business will be more productive. Customers at Land's End's retail and club can call toll-free to take advantage of advanced club phone and our local delivery packages. Land's End's

with Canada's only national digital cellular network, and more than 75-hour classroom series and it's clear that Canada's committed to quality business cellular. So if you're looking for superior cellular, check us out. William Papp and your voice in the future.

Canada's Communications Network

CANTEL



BY FRED BRUNING

Well, it is true that Bush outlived in the NBA because he needed the basketball veto—simple as that. He was not alone, of course. Plenty of U.S. politicians seek the blessing of the indigenous constituency even if they wouldn't be caught dead in a duck blind or singing lead at happy hours behind the county dump. For the pledge of NBA support, a candidate need only step forward at appropriate moments to denry gun-control activists as dupes or traitors, and, if possible, recite on cue that guns don't kill people, people do. (Shale Bash her horse race, too, but the Hawks are the only ones who can't.)

Fred Blasing is a writer with Newsday in New York.

used, it is quite possible to bootstrap some of the people all of the time. On this premise do the NSA and its political footcops survive; and, when, flourish.

In substance to NSA doctrine, Bush followed only slightly during his presidential term by backing a linguistically weak curb on exported semiautomatic weapons and failing to oppose with sufficient order a waiting period imposed on Americans eager to buy guns. Figure, the NSA withheld its endorsement for Bush's re-election bid in 2002. The override

took his lumps like a man and, even though he lost the race, continued paying NAB membership dues. Then one day not long ago, Bush—who so far as we know does not intend to run again for public office—came across an astonishing NAB fundraising letter. That thing was a beast, all right, a renegade, incendiary masterpiece, and, by golly, it made George Bush bristle.

Signed by NSA executive vice president Wayne LaPierre, the letter took a swipe at federal law-enforcement agents in terms that might have seemed inappropiate even for the fervent hounds at Hasting's Central. LaPierre is the guy who goes on TV all the time to suggest that if America is disarmed

by so much as a single 22-caliber rifle, constitutional freedoms will be rendered worthless and the nation soon shall perish. While you know understatement is not exactly LaFollette's gift, a still was remarkable that a man paid to issue public policy statements described federal law-enforcement agents as thugs in "Nazi bucket helmets and black storm trooper uniforms" who wanted nothing more than to "harass, intimidate and even murder law-abiding citizens."

That did it. Bush whipped out a letter of his own saying he was quitting the NSA because of the in-out language employed by LaPierre. On a separate note, Bush said he knew an agent who had been killed in the April bombing of a federal building in Oklahoma City and another who died during the 1993 siege of the Branch Davidian religious compound near Waco, Tex. The NSA had raised safety, Bush said, "deeply affords my own sense of decency and honor."

It was in a considered policy to ask where the former chief exec's "sense of decency and honor" had been hiding for so many years in regard to the NWA. Indeed, Bush was asked by Clinton, who believed the organization himself and demanded that the NWA donate proceeds gained from the notorious letter to families of police officers killed in the line of duty. Though LaPierre apologized for not making clear that he was referring only to certain—and not all—government agents in his letter, the NWA official denounced on Clinton's call for a philanthropic gesture. "We thank the President for his suggestion," LaPierre replied. The charge most debatable is not in the mail.

The rub to this whole affair is that public pressure for gun control in recent years has hardened attitudes at the NRA. In turn, the organization has fallen more deeply into the embrace of the inassailable right. As *New York City* *Newsday* writer Marc Casot noted in a recent essay, "NRA legislative director Tonya Metcalfe privately made a computer database called Bullets R' Us and that, among other provisions his infatuation, posted a recipe for home-made bombs. Not to be outdone," says Casot, the NRA's new institutional commander-in-chief, "has ordered a copy of the *Black Book*, a New York Times bestseller by William Bradford Huie, a Texas author who, among other things, organized the ride on the *Waco* compound—and succeeded on images of 'hottie' *Red* Hunter over an open, raincoat."

This is a just sniff—maybe, as Bush illustrates, too rough even for some NSA members. A recent *Time* magazine/CNN poll showed that American gun owners support for the NRA's position has dropped 20 percentage points in five years. Maybe the gun crowd is slowly coming to its senses. So at an old swag, despite the NSA leadership is too. At the organization's recent convention in Phoenix, *Am. Rifle* delegates were walking the floor with empty barrels. Why? Because the NRA insists members leave their shooting arms at the door. NSA officials argue that people—not guns—kill people. But you can't blame them for worrying about exceptions to the rule.

BY MARY NEMETH

To an attentive observer, it may have seemed as though the two campaigns had successfully mixed up their schedules last week. While Saskatchewan Conservative Leader Bill Boyd (and on traditional social democratic turf he is touted rural health clinics that used to be hospitals before the province's NDP government shut down budget deficits), NDP Leader Roy Romanow was visiting burgeoning tourism centres—often two a day—praising entrepreneurs and the economic "revival at Saskatchewan" (But there was method to the Prairie madness in the run-up to Saskatchewan's June 21 election. Premier Romanow leads the first government in Canada to balance its budget this decade. And he has been born an advocate of pragmatic politics in a province that has traditionally elected socially populist, if populist, NDP governments. His challenge now is to convince voters that his reforms have boosted Saskatchewan's business prospects without causing undue harm to social programs.)

Romanow was in a strong position going into the campaign. According to a CBC Angus Reid poll of 800 respondents, conducted just days before the May 23 election call, the NDP is supported by 55 per cent of elected voters, compared with 26 per cent for the Liberals and just 13 per cent for the Tories. The election is clearly Romanow's to lose. "Romanow is a pragmatic, mainstream politician," says Philip Barrow, a University of Regina political scientist. "The opposition Liberals and Conservatives are fighting to deliver a clear right wing alternative. But it's very hard to detect evidence that people want a change."

In fact, while Ontario's NDP government appeared poised for defeat at its week's provincial election and its scandal-prone counterpart in British Columbia is disintegrating—and the federal NDP is engaged in a painful soul-searching exercise leading up to its leadership convention in October—Romanow's wing of the party alone in the country, in Saskatchewan. (But he is far from invincible. Romanow inherited the province's 1994-1995 budget after nearly four years of tax increases and everything from capex to retail sales, as well as spending cuts that included closing 50 rural hospitals and converting them to health clinics. Both Conservative Leader Boyd and Liberal Leader Elyse Harcourt accuse the New Democrats of spending the health cuts, leaving some communities without adequate care. They also promise tax relief—Boyd pledges to cut two points off Saskatchewan's nine-per-cent provincial sales tax, Harcourt promises a five-point cut.)

Romanow has had to do a careful balancing act in fighting back. To those in Saskatchewan worried about high taxes, he says the opposition parties cannot achieve their promised sales tax cuts without driving the province back into deficit financing. To traditional supporters on the left more concerned about his health cuts, Romanow argues that he only did what had to be done. "And if not the New Democrats doing the reforms, if not New Democrats in charge of reversing, who

then?" he asked party members at a rally in North Battleford (40 km northwest of Saskatoon, one evening last week).

The premier's supporters argue that in tackling the deficit, he is only returning to the roots of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, the precursor to the NDP, which first came to power in Saskatchewan in 1944. They are loud in pointing out that it took Saskatchewan's first social democratic premier, Tommy Douglas, nearly 20 years of fiscal prudence before he felt he could afford to begin implementing welfare in 1962. But there are

Roy Romanow's pragmatic politics play well in the heartland of Canadian socialism

THE MIDDLE WAY



McNamara (left), Christian and Romanow juggling the "kitchen account" in 1994. Romanow in his campaign motor home last week (above): "I like to compete"



also those on the left who claim that view is lessened reassurance. Douglas balanced budgets, confers John Corry, a political sociologist at the University of Regina, "but he also raised taxes on the rich and the business sector." By contrast, says Corry, leader Romanow "the wealthy and the business sector haven't paid their fair share of the bill." Corry argues that the left wing of the party has been completely frozen and during Romanow's tenure—no change. Romanow denies that Romanow also expresses competition over critics who accuse him of deficit obsession and of forsaking Douglas's legacy. "I have to owe for somebody who says that this debt is all a scam," he said in an interview with *Maclean's* about his campaign motor home last week. But Romanow's antic deficit campaign does not in itself explain his success. Instead, argues former Manitoba NDP premier Howard Hawley, the appeal of the Saskatchewan party is due in large part to the province's residents, small-town roots. "There is some residue of feeling that we have a responsibility to our neighbors," he says. "There is a cultural difference." And, of course, the CCF/NDP has governed Saskatchewan for 25 of the past 31 years. That means, no longer Earl Scherbrin said at a Saskatoon Romanow breakfast for 200 journalists last week, "we're used to NDP governments—we're not afraid of them as they are in Ontario." It also means NDP politicians get practical, on-the-job training—Romanow, for example, has been on the provincial stage for most of the past 28 years, including serving as deputy premier under former premier Allan Rockness from 1971 to 1982. "When Bob Rao took over my Ontario," he had never seen the inside of a cabinet room before," says Romanow, "and I don't think anyone in Mike Harcourt's government had either."

A lawyer by training, Romanow is known to be as competitive in politics as he is in when playing tennis and basketball. His critics claim he cannot stand to lose, and that his key weaknesses in winning to be elected too much. Friends counter that his defeat in an upset Tory in the 1982 election taught him and that the spending cuts he initiated as premier show he is willing to endure harsh criticism. "There's no question that Roy really needs in the affliction of the electorate and suffers when he loses he has lost it," says Don Chang, a former law partner and now president of Saskatchewan's Crown Investments Corp. "I think in some respects, he's almost too sensitive to be in politics. But in the past 25 years I've seen him take decisions that have been groundbreaking for him. He showed surprising steel."

At the same time, Romanow has declined, on numerous occasions, nominations to run for the federal NDP leadership. He obviously prefers the actual business of running a province to the prospect of life in the opposition benches in Ottawa. "You couldn't get me free with a bow of candy or a ton of dry martinis," he says. "I think that social democracy is a practical governing reform that can be accomplished here. It's important to achieve the dream—don't get me wrong. It's just not my life."

Even after all his years in public life, Roy Romanow refuses to let his date of birth in the *Redmonton Gazette*. His mother goes back to 1920 when he was unsuccessfully against his family for the party leadership. "They said I was too young, so I had to keep my age quiet then," says Romanow, by way of explanation. "And now, some say it's time for a change so I've got to keep it quiet on the other end." In between, though, what he was running for the NDP leadership a second time, he told reporters that he had turned 48 on Aug. 13, 1987—and that in the "weight games" he said. "That would put him at 55 today." This reveals about his background is known. His father, Michael, emigrated from western Ukraine to Saskatoon in 1902. He settled in as a farmer, but it was the eve of the Great Depression, when work was scarce and the land mired by drought. And so, when Romanow was 14, he left for a job doing steel construction with the Canadian National Railway. Michael's wife, Tilda, and their daughter, Ann, later joined him in Saskatoon, where Roy was born. The family lived in the city's working class and ethnically diverse west end and sometimes struggled to get by. Today, Romanow lives in a house that he did not have a bath in the early years—now he would want his cousin's home across town for Saturday breakfast. "But I grew up with a lot of love and a lot of childhood," he says. "We weren't wealthy, but we were within the standards of the community, and I didn't feel that I had missed anything."

Romanow's father was an ardent Ukrainian nationalist who dreamed of returning one day to a Ukraine free of Soviet rule. He married young Roy—who spoke Ukrainian at home and did not learn to speak English well until he went to school—in Ukrainian classes three nights a week to maintain his first language heritage. Neither of his parents was particularly political—although his father, like many immigrants of the day, supported the Liberals. "He gave them credit for allowing him to come to the house of freedom," says Romanow. But his father was also a faithful union member, something that his son says stuck with him. So, he adds, did a desire "to go to school and improve my life in life."

Romanow is known now as a skilled and sometimes passionate orator.

ter—a talent he learned early. He played hockey early. Eaton's catalogues for adult parties—but was not, by his own admission, particularly talented. And when he failed to make his Grade 7 hockey team, he offered instead to do play-by-play for the school games. Later, a local radio station invited him to do live radio broadcasts of power games, which he turned to a part-time stint as a sports and news announcer at the station during his high school and university years.

Romanow studied arts and then law at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon between 1967 and 1970. It was during his second year there that his father died of a massive heart attack. Romanow's mother took on a cleaning job at a local teacher's college to help keep the household running.

Romanow got his first taste of politics when he was elected student body president in the early 1960s. He also served on the university debating team. Before lawyer Tony Merchant, who used to work at the same law office as Romanow and later an opponent of his in the legislature in a Liberal MHA, describes Romanow in university as "competitive, though not in an unpleasant way," adding that the always loud-bawled "out of someone's mouth" his student friends were all free or protest arrests all Liberals, recalls Merchant, while Romanow leaned further to the left. "He was never outstare in political outlook," says Merchant. "He always just thought government could be a little more."

It was left in his student days, though, before Romanow was down into party politics, largely because of the debate over Douglas's long-cherished median project that gripped the province in the early 1980s. A magazine figure in Saskatchewan politics, Douglas was the agitator for many since New Democratic leader Allan Rock stepped down in 1980. Douglas became the federal leader of

the newly created NDP and young Romanow got involved with Douglas's campaign, occasionally acting as his chauffeur and press aide. "He actually wanted me to run federally in 1982," says Romanow. "But I wasn't ready yet." Instead, he finished high school and joined the Guelphing. Taylor and Falls law firm in Saskatoon.

It was about the time when he finished his school that Romanow met Ellenore

Romanow on Ottawa politics: 'You couldn't get me there with a box of candy or a ton of dynamite'

Dogbovich, a radio reporter and later cartoonist writer. They married three years later. Today, Ellenore sits in the cradle's while two stately lions in Saskatoon—Old Times district, while her husband rents an townhouse in the capital. Again, and returns home on weekends. Romanow contends that his political schedule has taken a toll. "It's been difficult on Ellenore," he says. "But we don't have any children, which I think would have made it even more difficult."

Ellenore, who holds a bachelor's degree in fine arts and a master's in education, is also a painter whose work has been on display at several local exhibitions. She stays away from the spotlight, declining media inter-

views (dismissing one from Markham's last week) and only rarely joining her husband in the campaign trail. "She'll do me or two campaign appearances," says Romanow. "But her attitude is that that's not my job and she does her own thing. It's actually very good because it prevents an exclusively political atmosphere."

The couple had been married only a few months when Romanow was first elected as an opposition member in 1987. And it was just three years after that when he took a run at the provincial NDP leadership. "I look back at it as a foolish thing to do," says Romanow. "I wasn't ready. I wasn't mature enough." He lost to Blake Gray—a former cabinet minister and by then a 39-year veteran of the party—on the third ballot.

The 1970s were a prosperous time for Saskatchewan, with good crops and strong commodity prices. And, perhaps because it could afford to be. "Blakeney's government was more interventionist than Romanow's. In fact, under Blakeney's tenure, Romanow helped to engineer the nationalization of nearly half the potash industry in Saskatchewan—a move that Conservative premier Greg Devine later reversed. Romanow continues to believe that privatization was bad for the province, but says that his government cannot afford to buy back into the potash industry."

In addition to being deputy premier, Romanow served as attorney general through-

Romanow with wife Ellenore: she shines away from the media spotlight

out the Blakeney years. And Romanow also travelled to Ottawa with Blakeney to help hammer out the much-mooted accord that guaranteed the Canadian Constitution in 1989. In fact, it was Romanow, along with his federal and Ontario counterparts at the time, Jean Chrétien and Roy McMurtry, who forged the outline of the final deal in what became known as the kitchen accord, a handily scribbled agreement worked out in the kitchen of a suite in Ottawa's Château Laurier hotel on Nov. 8, 1988.

Blakeney and Romanow later paid dearly

for what voters saw as their pro-southernism, with constitutional issues. Romanow says it was clear within hours of the election oil in 1989 that he had made a terrible mistake—you could just see it with the way people were looking at you," says. "You're never going to be ready for it when it happens." In the Tory sweep that year, Romanow lost his seat but by 20 years to Jo-Anne Zacharychuk in a 23-year-old red estate agent.

While others digress, Romanow insists that he spent very early to life away from politics. He went a look about the constitutional process, lectured at the University of Saskatchewan and returned practicing law. Evelyn Chretien, an English lecturer at the

University of Regina who was Romanow's executive assistant from 1979 to 1982, now agrees that, having survived his years at the political wilderness, Romanow came back willing to take tough and politically risky stands. "The experience of defeat," says Chretien, "gave him a lot of guts."

Romanow was back but did not sit at the end election in 1986 and won the NDP leadership by acclamation the year after that when Blakeney stepped aside. In the meantime, the Tories had governed Saskatchewan during a difficult time, which included a collapse of international prices for grain and other commodities as well as drought. And while government revenues plummeted, Devine also cut taxes. By the time he called an election in 1990, his government was running a \$842-million deficit. Romanow led in the polls from the start to the finish of the campaign, and his party swept 55 of the 66 seats.

As Romanow campaigns for re-election, he is continuing more fiscal restraint, however by a promise to deny up the debt surpluses his government has projected over the next four years under modest tax relief, increased spending on programs and paying down the provincial debt. And he continues to do it all as well as he can the compassionate. "Saskatchewan way." If he does win, he might not be far yet another term after that he says. "I like to compete," he concedes. "Though I wouldn't say my competition is the party he's going to be in. I think it's a lot of people who I have developed the wisdom to know when to withdraw. I probably haven't. I still have to go too many young guys in badminton." For a conservative, if cautious, centrist leader like Roy Romanow, politics remains the only game in town.

With HELEN GARGANTA in Ottawa and DAVID EISEN in Regina

Contrasting challengers

Saskatchewan's two main opposition leaders are a study in contrast. Tall, dark and imposing, Liberal leader Lynn Stenwick is a sharp-tongued clinical psychologist who makes confidence and charisma. Old Boyd, the baby-faced Conservative leader, is a soft-spoken former and small businessman who is at one speaking to small groups, but seems off and awkward when addressing larger crowds. Different styles, to be sure, but they share a similar up-and-down challenge: convincing voters that one of them, rather than front-runner Roy Romanow, should be premier of Saskatchewan.

Lynn Stenwick, a 46-year-old native of St. Catharines, Ont., is as strange to personal challenge. Prigat at the age of 15, she dropped out of school to have the baby. Her marriage, at age 33, to the baby's father ended in divorce three years later, after which she returned to complete high school. Then, while studying psychology at the University of Saskatchewan, she suffered from chronic bad arthritis and was temporarily



Stenwick, 'people have to have a sense of purpose'

Before winning the Liberal leadership in 1988, she had established a successful practice counselling job-stressed women who were experiencing stress. "My own life," she says, "tells me that people have to be able to have a sense of themselves and a sense of purpose."

Running in the riding of Saskatoon-Graysland, Stenwick won the Liberals' only seat in the 1993 provincial election. In addition to her agile mind and charismatic presence, Stenwick is also well known for an intense management style. Her critics say she has little time for managing ego and has yet to prove she can be a team leader. However, she was deeply disappointed by the Liberals' showing in 1995, and she better this time by stressing reform government spending

and lower taxes while retaining current levels of health-care funding. But she has no intention of changing her style. "Six years ago, I didn't need this job and I don't need it today," she says. "If I can do the best job I can, that's all I can expect."

Bill Boyd, 38, is a relative newcomer to politics. Born in Bilton, a town of 1,200 in western Saskatchewan, the engineering father of two spent most of his adult life tending the family farm in the area, and helping to run small family-owned retail and plumbing businesses. Soon winning the Kenderley riding for the Conservatives in 1993, Boyd has been blessed and cursed by his political inexperience. In November, 1994, he won the party leadership—in part because he had no ties to



Boyd moving the Tory party firmly to the right

Grand Dealer's heavily unpopular Conservative government, which was ousted from office in 1990 after nine years in power. But waging his first election as leader just eight months later, he now profiles as a clear leader.

Under Boyd's leadership, the Saskatchewan Conservative Party

is launching firmly to the right. An advocate of Alberta Premier Ralph Klein's deficit-cutting strategy, Terry Greening, Boyd is trying to distance his party from the record of the Devine government, which ran state-conservative budget deficits. "I believe in the whole job-cost system has shifted more and more to the right because of the realities of deficit and debt," he says. The Conservative leader promises to cut government spending by five per cent and to introduce legislation to reduce the provincial deficit. And to address water quality issues about pollution, he has no other pledge. If he fails to fill his major campaign promises, Boyd says he will resign.

BRIAN BERNHART with DAVID EISEN in Regina

Big Bang versus a Big Being

The four teenagers sitting around a blacktopped lab table at the Yale Secondary School in Abbotsford, B.C., are bright, articulate, confident—and disagree in their views. The issue they are debating is a large one. Indeed, it is arguably the biggest question of them all: how did life begin? By evolution or by divine creation, with a Big Bang or a Big Being? Michael Pae, 16, is undecided. His Baptist Christian faith inclines him towards divine creation at the same time, he says, as his growing knowledge of science propels him towards evolution. Roxana Catholic Jennifer Morrison, 17,

is a Christian; she rejects the idea that science accurately says. Erika Martin, 15, and two of her Anglican friends, Keri Green, 15, and a 16-year-old non-sectarian, Robert, are firmly in the evolutionary camp. What all four youngsters agree on, however, is that the language-learning debate over how to teach the origins of life, which has pitted their school's board of trustees against the provincial minister of education in a long, bitter, and at times ugly, fight, is not just a test case. Says Pae: "Personally, I don't see what the big deal is."

Critics of the Abbotsford school board, which estimates the education of 10,000 pupils in five high schools in Abbotsford, 45 km east of Vancouver, have less trouble identifying the problem. "We know," asserts an independent video producer Scott Goodman, 45, the board's most outspoken challenger, "its procreation dogma of religion." In Goodman's view, a 13-year-old board policy that requires its teachers "to expose students to both divine creation and the evolutionary concepts of life's origins," is a veiled attack by Christian extremists on the entire body of science and a gross violation of the principle that the state should remain secular in its role. In fact, Goodman says, it is a view that British Columbia's education minister, Arthur Chisholm, shares. Abbotsford's seven elected school board members, Chisholm told Morrison last week, "are trying to force teachers to put a religious theory on the same level as evolution in a science class." Declaring that it be preferable in a secular and multicultural society, as well as legal, Chisholm asked on Goodman's complaint and gave the Abbotsford board seat June 16 to conduct the poll. Declared Chisholm: "There will be only one outcome to this every district will comply with the School Act."

For its part, the board agrees with its four Yale Secondary students that the matter is being blown out of proportion. "The board has no intention of making this an issue," its chairman, John Sutherland, dean of Vancouver's University of Trinity Western, a Christian teaching institution, told Morrison. "No one in Abbotsford did this. It's a matter of making this an issue." Calling the apparent bad blood between the minister and Abbotsford's school trustees a creation of the Vancouver media, Sutherland added: "It has been inflicted on us from the outside." He then cut short an interview, declining to answer any further questions.

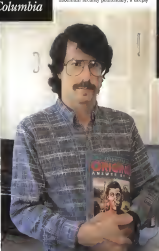
But for some residents of the growing town and bedroom community, the issue is not settled. "This is much, much bigger than biology," asserts Vicki Robinson, president of the 1,000-member Abbotsford Teachers Association. According to Robinson, evangelical Christians, supported by Abbotsford's many fundamentalist congregations, are trying to impose their moral views on their neighbors. "They take the high moral road," she says, "as if their way is the right way and no one else's."

One parent who strongly agrees is Loraine Lathrop, president of the city's arts council. Lathrop became alarmed about the acceptance of the religious right wing in her community in 2002

after school officials defended her 13-year-old daughter, Katherine, to perform a short play she had written as part of a scholarship application. Titled *It's Not All That Pretty*, it dealt with teenage sexuality, a subject the board considered inappropriate. Afterwards, Lathrop says, Robinson received several obscenely worded death threats from telephone callers who labelled her a "agent of Satan." Says Lathrop now: "We've got people of hate here. The whole community agrees in to impose this kind of Christianity on the whole community. It's intolerant and not enlightening."

Certainly, this is far from the first collision between Christian and secular society in a region widely considered to be British Columbia's Bible Belt. An amalgam in January with neighboring Mission to form a municipality of 130,000 people, Abbotsford is tucked into the verdant Fraser Valley's lush pasture land and to its fields, cupped between towering peaks of the Coast Mountain range. In addition to Trinity Western, it is home to a moderate-severity penitentiary, a deeply

The thorny debate over teaching creationism in school resurfaces in British Columbia



rooted Sikh community (which runs its own private school), and a growing number of congregations of many faiths and backgrounds who daily make the 30-minute drive on traffic-choked freeways in Vancouver for work. Asserts Yale Secondary's principal, George Peary, a national spokesman for the past year: "We are not an Elmer Gantry or religious institution."

Still, the seeds doers of evangelical and fundamentalist churches, Bible colleges and flourishing private Christian schools reawaken its reputation for deep religious faith. That image has been bolstered by previous controversies. Earlier this year, critics accused the local library board of censorship after it attempted to ban a weekly gay and lesbian community newspaper published in Vancouver from its children's collection.



Pae and Morrison (right) in biology class; Goodman (left) the argument over the origins of life has pitted the school board against the education minister

Observed Cindy Filipek, editor of the since-revived *Exa West* that the religious right has lit a spark that is, basically, freedom for churches and not for anybody else.

Pae's controversy ignited the region's strong back-to-basics Christian bent. In a survey of 100 local people taken in November, 1990, CV Market Research of Abbotsford found that 56 per cent of them believed the Bible to be a literal record of God's word—nearly twice as many as the same group in a nationwide poll commissioned earlier the same year by Macdonald. More recently, in a provocative poll of 500 people, Vancouver's MarketResearch found that 56 per cent of residents surveyed in the lower Fraser Valley agreed that "government should do more to support basic Christian values"—compared with 33 per cent in metropolitan Vancouver.

Many local politicians share these views. School board chairman Sutherland, who gives Bible classes at his home-based faith, is also a right-to-life activist. Board vice-chairman Paul Chamberlain is another evangelical-minded Trinity Western faculty member. And the region's rosier Liberal MP, John van Dongen, rattled his party badly when he insisted, as the wife of his by-election victory on May 3, that he would seek to limit access to abortions, contrary to party policy. Van Dongen, a Roman Catholic who says he believes in the divine creation of the planets, Earth and life in six days, adds: "There is no human reason to have it in the school system."

School trustee Gerda Faudrich could not give an answer. A small businesswoman and former teacher with four grown children, as well as an evangelical Christian, Faudrich asserts: "There is sci-

entific evidence that will support evolutionary theory, and there is scientific evidence against the theory of evolution in its entirety. And it should be taught." While Faudrich insists that she has no desire to impose her religious beliefs on her students, she adds: "It is not our role in a school trustee to make sure that any reference to Christianity is deleted from discussion in school." With that in mind, Faudrich is elected the strongest backer of the Abbotsford board's teaching policy.

How that policy is applied in practice, however, seems both less provocative than many of its critics insist—and less incoherent of criticism. Faudrich's predecessor at Yale Secondary, biology teacher Trevor Fowler speaks his discussion of the origins of life, a part of the Grade 11 curriculum, by drawing a distinction between knowing the material and accepting it. "I make it clear that no one has to believe it or not, but they are expected to understand it," he says. Acknowledging that evolutionary theory has weaknesses, Fowler who tells his students that there are other views about the beginnings of life, frequently cites both biblical and Christian creation beliefs as examples. He insists it plans, however, that he will teach only science, not theories of divine creation, because "I do not consider them to be scientific."

There is no question that Yale's students learn their biology. They consistently outscore students from most other B.C. schools in province-wide examinations. While all of the district's six students are assessed between 65 and 67 per cent on each of the past three secondary years, the average mark for Yale Secondary students has been above 80 per cent. Concludes Fowler, a Presbyterian who says he leans towards evolutionary theory: "If I was teaching in a different district, I would handle it exactly as I have here." But when Fowler's wife asks him for more information about the creationist argument, he does not discourage them. Instead, he refers them to reference materials in the school library and at the school district office, as well as encouraging them to seek out other sources. He even keeps several copies of our popular creationist site, *Of Pandas and People*, on his classroom bookshelf.

What students who explore that material encounter is clearly sufficient to set off alarm bells among those who value the separation of church and state, not to mention science. Much of it is drawn from publications of the California-based Institute for Creation Research, an explicitly evangelical opposition that employs many employees, offers ministry care both in kindergarten and adult, including the study of the Bible and the divine creation of the universe "in six literal days." There is no material representing the creation stories of faiths other than Christianity.

Confronted, Faudrich acknowledged last week that the board's reference material "has to be reviewed, and we will do that." But the board, four of whose seven members are strongly identified with the religious right, will issue no more than that to any Chamberlain's ultimatum. A decision to rescind the controversial policy may well anger some evangelical supporters. But many parents and students plainly share the minister's view that religion and science should not be mixed—at least not in a school serving the parents of young faiths. Notes student Jennifer Morrison: "I believe in creationism, but if you want to learn about Darwin and Eve, they can teach it in a science class." Many of them, he believes, are likely to say much to that.

CHUCK WOOD in Abbotsford

Banished to solitude

He will have only birds, animals and a small fish tank for company on his solitary prison island. Last September, Billy Taylor, a 28-year-old member of the La Ronge Indian band, was convicted of raping his former common-law wife at her home in La Ronge, Sask., 240 km north of Prince Albert. The Crown says Taylor sentenced to four years in prison, but like an increasing number of aboriginal people across Canada, Taylor asked that a so-called native sentencing circle decide his fate. Last week at the La Ronge band office, Taylor took his seat in a circle along with 20 other people, including the victim, and family and friends at both. After discussing his case for nearly six hours, they agreed to banish Taylor to an isolated island near the community for one year. Older than the people who will deliver food to him each month, he is not expected to have any human contact. Maxine Clinton, the woman he raped, told Maclean's the punishment fits the crime. "I don't want to say, but this way he will get what he needs."

The La Ronge band's decision to banish Taylor is a tradition of native punishment may help to rehabilitate Taylor. The initiative is an expanding experiment in native justice. Applied by the high number of native people in jails across Canada, all 10 provinces and the territories have launched unique sentencing projects. The initiative gained momentum at a meeting of provincial justice ministers in Ottawa in March 1994, when they agreed on the importance of building bridges between the justice system and aboriginal traditions. In fact, since 1982 in Toronto, more than 200 native offenders have been diverted out of the criminal justice system by the Crown. Their sentences, which can include being ordered to perform community work, are then endorsed by native tribunals. Last November, Justice Minister Jean Charest announced a decision of an aboriginal law clinic in Toronto: "We have to break the street-gangster cycle."

In Saskatchewan, nearly 100 cases have been brought before sentencing circles since 1991. While most involved minor offenders, lately people convicted of serious crimes have gone through the new system. Last

A Saskatchewan ruling reflects a new trend in sentencing natives

June, a circle in Saskatoon sentenced Jean Morris, a 34-year-old Native man charged with robbery with violence, to 18 months in jail. The Crown, which wanted a four-year sentence for Morris, took the case to the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal. Its ruling, which is expected later this month, will for



Chicago: "It won't be easy, but this guy is not getting out of here."

the first time establish guidelines for judges handling the circles. And last week, as Taylor waited in jail, he told Maclean's that if the banishment helps change his life for the better, it could also advance the cause of traditional native justice. "There is a lot of pressure on me," said Taylor. "People are watching to see how it works out."

The sentencing groups take their names from ancient native healing circles. James Youngblood Henderson, chief operating off-

icer of the Native Law Centre in Saskatoon, says that, historically, natives allowed the community to instruct individuals who had committed crimes. But the Canadian justice system, he added, has badly failed native people. "When we send a young native to prison," says Henderson, "it doesn't resolve anything."

Taylor's case, however, stands as a major test of the emerging system—in part because of the seriousness of the charge against him. Following his conviction, Justice J. D. McMeen of the Saskatchewan Court of Queen's Bench asked the La Ronge band to consider Taylor's punishment. The band agreed, and Morris, along with lawyers for the defence and Crown, joined the families and members of the La Ronge band to debate the case. At times, the discussion became heated because Taylor never admitted his guilt. But in the end, instead of jail, he was banished. "We're taking this case as a challenge," says La Ronge band co-ordinator Henry McKenzie. "There is no healing in jail."

Later this month, Taylor will be taken to the remote island, where he will live in a small temporary cabin. But unlike his forefathers, who lived in almost certain debt when cut off from their communities, band members will deliver groceries to him each month. And Taylor, who will not be allowed TV or radio, and he is prepared for the fact. "This is spiritual," he said. "I will be able to see myself for who I really am."

Many aboriginal leaders see sentencing circles as the first step in creating a completely independent native justice system, including their own courts. Currently, the native circles are accommodated under the Criminal Code as a kind of pre-sentencing hearing, with the judge ultimately handing the final say. In Taylor's case, he will be banished to an island, but he could be sent to prison if he does not remain there.

Still, the experiments do not always work. In 1993, for example, the British Columbia government stopped funding sentencing circles among Salish natives of Vancouver Island when native women complained bitterly that the new system was dominated by male members of the band. And John Bousquet, the Reform party's critic on native justice, says his party would create a completely independent system of aboriginal justice. But Henderson says tension agreed by natives gave them the right to control their own justice systems. And their courts could be helpful dramatically if suitable turn Taylor into a peaceful citizen.

TON FENNEL



The future is wide open.

Introducing a new Macintosh® home computer from Apple. Macintosh Performa.

Now become everything you need (and want) — 20 software and CD titles, hardware, monitor, CD-ROM drive, modem, keyboard, mouse — comes in one box. All you have to do is plug it in. It's that simple. Really. That's not a statement we make lightly. After all, it is a Macintosh, and like every Macintosh, it's easy. Easy to set up, to learn, and most important — to use. Which means it makes everything you want to do easy, like multi-media, working at

home (no matter whose home you're at) or tapping into the Internet. It even makes getting the answers easy — in the case even you have questions — with Apple's 24-hour telephone support. What is more impressive though,

Macintosh Performa® has a price that makes buying it easy. Very easy.

So much for so little.

So open a Macintosh Performa box and open the door — to learning, to opportunity, to the future, to the power to be your best. Visit your authorized Apple Canada Dealer today. For the dealer nearest you, call 1-800-665-2775, ext. 500.



It's everything you need in one box.



The First
Canadian
Publication
On An
Interactive
Online Service

Connect With The Issues

Introducing Maclean's,
Canada's Weekly Newsmagazine,
on CompuServe

Maclean's on CompuServe connects you directly
with the issues that matter to you.

Log on, and access a whole new world of information.

Join our interactive forums and share news and views with other online users,
Maclean's editors and special guest experts

Get connected with Maclean's on CompuServe and access the following features:

- **Current Issue** Enjoy the full text and graphics of the current issue.
- **Photo Gallery** Maclean's illuminating photography, and the people who make the news, come to life on your desktop.
- **Maclean's Forum** Explore and debate the issues with Maclean's editors, other online users and guest experts on a wide range of topics such as gun control, education, travel, and medicine & health.
- **Search Back Issues** A valuable tool for school or business research. Search the full text of back issues by key words or subject.

CompuServe
The information superhighway to a better world

Call 1 800 487-0952 and ask for Operator 721 to receive:

- Free CompuServe Information Manager (CIM) software for DOS, Macintosh, Windows or OS/2
- One free month of CompuServe's basic services, a \$9.95 U.S. value
- Includes 3 free hours on the Internet each month
- A \$15.00 U.S. escape credit to explore CompuServe's extended services, including Maclean's Online Forum

Maclean's
The Magazine of Canada

Canada NOTES



RAGING INFERNO: A forest fire taken its toll 800 km north of Prince Albert, Sask., one of hundreds that consumed more than 250,000 acres of forests across Western Canada. In northern Alberta, where one firefighter died when the wind suddenly changed direction, the smoke from the biggest forest fire in a decade blocked the highway into Fort McMurray, a community of 35,000. Fires in northern British Columbia and Saskatchewan forced the evacuation of more than 800 people.

Signs of support for gun control

A new public opinion poll showed that nearly two-thirds of Canadians continue to support federal Justice Minister Allan Rock's proposed gun-control legislation—even though a slight majority of respondents said they did not think it would reduce crime. The Angus Reid Group poll, conducted between May 24 and May 30, surveyed 1,506 Canadians of those 1,198 said that there were no guns in their households. Overall, 66 per cent of respondents supported the proposed legislation—which includes mandatory registration of seven million currently unregistered firearms—while 32 per cent said they opposed it, and four per cent were undecided.

The survey showed opinion divided along regional lines—and between gun owners and those who do not own firearms. Regionally, Rock's bill was supported by 84 per cent of respondents in British Columbia, 55 per cent in

Alberta, 40 per cent in Saskatchewan/Montana, 64 per cent in Ontario, 79 per cent in Quebec, and 46 per cent in Atlantic Canada. The survey also found that 73 per cent of respondents from households without guns supported the federal proposal. But it was opposed by 59 per cent of those from households that owned guns.

Air India reward

The RCMP offered a \$1-million reward for information leading to the arrest of those responsible for the June 23, 1985, bombing of Air India Flight 182 from Toronto, which blew up off the Irish coast, taking 329 people, 276 of them Canadians. No one has been charged in the bombing, although police have long believed that it was the work of Sikh extremists working out of the Vancouver area who were agitating for a separate Sikh nation to be carved out of India. The announcement of the reward came two days before a meeting between Solicitor General Herb Gray and relatives of the Air India victims, who are demanding a public inquiry into the bombing.

A NEW NDP CONTENDER

Alexa Muirhead, who led the Nova Scotia race from 1983 until 1984, entered the race to succeed Audrey McLaughlin as leader of the federal party. McDonough, 58, joins B.C. MP Brent Holliday, former Saskatchewan MP Lorne Nyberg and Vancouver author Herschel Hardin in the October leadership contest.

BREAST CANCER SUIT

Montreal's St. Luc Hospital is being sued by the U.S. department of justice for damages incurred after one of the hospital's surgeons, Roger Pearson, admitted false data to a U.S.-funded study on breast cancer. The \$725,000 suit seeks to recover money spent seeking out the inaccurate information from the clinical trials comparing two breast cancer treatments.

NEWFOUNDLAND REFERENDUM

Newfoundland Premier Clyde Wells announced that he will hold a referendum on the government's plans to reduce the amount of control that churches exert over the province's school system. He set no date for the vote.

ROMP TURBAN RULING

The Federal Court of Appeal in Ottawa unanimously upheld an RCMP policy that allows Muslims to wear turbans. The suit against the policy had been launched by an Alberta group led by three retired RCMP officers.

CARE CONTROVERSY

The federal government said that it will investigate Care Canada after the CMC alleged that the aid agency misused more than \$260,000 in donations intended for relief work in Somalia. Spokespeople for CARE Canada denied the report and said the agency will sue the CMC for libel.

CABBIE BEATING TRIAL

Andre Laporte, one of five Montreal police officers charged with aggravated assault against taxi driver Robert Bernabe, testified that it was only to stop Bernabe from hurting himself that five police officers "restained" him so forcefully he wound up in a permanent coma. Laporte told the court that "the excessive force was used."

MR. POPULARITY

Prime Minister Jean Chretien's approval rating climbed to a record 68 per cent in the latest Gallup poll, conducted May 8 to 12. The previous record-holder was John Diefenbaker, who registered a 64 per cent approval rating in August, 1956.

HOLDING THE WORLD HOSTAGE

Memorial service for French peacekeeper killed on duty in Bosnia; gunsmoke

The Bosnian crisis prompts threats from NATO

They turned their backs before dawn in Tuzla last week. In the central Bosnian "safe area," where 72 Muslim civilians had been straggled by Bosnian Serb artillery fire a few days earlier, families took place before the sun came up as a previous time against men shelling from the quarters surrounding them. The threat may have been real, but the fate of the Bosnia Muslims was almost an afterthought for the international community. Instead, Canada and its allies focused on the embarrassing consequences of 277 United Nations peacekeepers taken hostage by the Bosnian Serbs in retaliation for NATO air strikes on their positions. And until the diplomatic ploys and emergency debates, political leaders struggled to do something—anything—to halt the Balkans' slide into further chaos.

Chaos is what Bosnia Serbs desired and freed peacekeepers at will and declared all previous agreements with the United Nations null and void. Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic threatened to turn Bosnia

into a "boiler shop" if any attempt was made to free the hostages by force. What is more, the Bosnian Serbs carried a direct confrontation with the United States by shooting down a patrolling U.S. F-117 fighter plane, touching off a missile air and sea search operation for the same jet pilot. That increased the prospects of greater U.S. involvement to assist the beleaguered UN effort, although a supposed untidy Washington would control ground troops.

The allies' most pressing task was to secure the release of all the hostages. By the weekend, Bosnian Serbs had delivered 120 of the captive peacekeepers, including 48 of the 55 detained Canadians, out of the battle area, to the Serbian capital of Belgrade. Late Sunday they flew to

Zagreb, Croatia, the UN secretary's headquarters. But many of the remaining 257 were still scattered in small groups across Bosnia and UN commanders did not even know the exact whereabouts of many of the Serbs. President Slobodan Milosevic promised French President Jacques Chirac in a telephone call that the others would be

released "very quickly." Bosnian Serb officials, however, were saying they wanted to see a good-will gesture from the West before letting them go. Complicating matters, the Bosnian Serbs stole six white-painted UN tanks and 37 of the peacekeepers' armored vehicles, making it easier for them to maneuver with impunity. They also sent a death threat by fax to Alexander Holm, a Bosnian spokesman for the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROF), who had accused the Bosnian Serbs of betraying his "sermons."

The Bosnian Serbs' willingness to take UN soldiers hostage—and to deny them in international forums and other potential military targets—effectively took air strikes out of the West's arsenal. U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher angrily insisted that air power "remained an option," that no one else had the stomach to see what the Bosnian Serbs would do next if the bombers flew again. "Every time there are any air strikes, there is retaliation," said Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Andre Ouellet, who adopted a policy of speaking softly and carrying a small stick at a NATO meeting in Noordwijk, Netherlands, last week.

French and British governments used the occasion to bolster their peacekeeping forces by sending more soldiers to the region—accompanying tanks, artillery pieces and helicopters. On the weekend, 55 NATO and European defense ministers meeting in Paris agreed to establish a "road mission force" of 9,000 to 10,000 troops, primarily British and French, to go to the aid of embattled UN peacekeepers in Bosnia. As for potential U.S. involvement beyond its current provision of aerial for NATO bombing, French Secretary William Parys ruled out the use of American troops in Bosnia, except as a last resort to aid any retreat of UN peacekeepers. That was in line with comments from President Bill Clinton, who talked early in the week of possible U.S. troops in a "voluntary" but by week's end was taking a more cautious approach.

For Canada's part, Ouellet said he was putting his faith in negotiation. "We are hoping that those detained will be released," he said. "We are not asking that the Serbs be released, but we are asking that Ottawa would not send reinforcements to the region—nor was it planning to participate in any dramatic rescue attempt." "We don't want to initiate a process that could lead to a loss of life," he said.

The Canadian hostage dilemma began on May 28 when, in retaliation for NATO air strikes, Bosnian Serbs turned and captured 27-year-old Capt. Patrick Rucinski to a part of an ammunition dump near Pale, hand quarters of the Bosnian Serb army, to act as a human shield. Capt. Rucinski, 41, of Trenton, Ore., was also captured to his quarters by Serbian forces on the outskirts of Sarajevo. By June 2, another 41 Canadians were being held in a school government in the town of Djap, 15 km northwest of Sarajevo, where they were being allowed to continue their duties—but under Bosnian Serb military guard—first three observation posts and a checkpoint on the Serbian-held side of the Bosna River, northwest of Sarajevo.

Both Chief of Defense Staff John de Chastelain and Defense Minister David Collette stressed last week that defense department officials had been in contact with the Canadian hostages, and that they seemed to be in good health. But the crisis required a heated debate about Canada's role at the former Yugoslavia. Ten Canadian

peacekeepers have been killed and more than 10 others seriously injured since the civil war began in 1992. And during an emergency House of Commons debate last week, Reform Party Leader Preston Manning called for an immediate pullout from Bosnia. Prime Minister Jean Chretien countered that his government remained firmly committed to the mission, while leaving tougher UN rules of engagement that would discourage acts of aggression against peacekeepers. "Millions of people living in that region are very grateful that Canadian people are there when they are needed to save lives," the Prime Minister said.

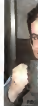
That Canada did not share the more bellicose sentiment of its allies was just one minor difference in a clouded, confused, disorienting international response to the crisis. Canada, whose soldiers first entered the humanitarian battle in Sarajevo in 1992, is no longer a major player in the Balkan mess, and Canadian officials say this was true. Prime Minister Jean Chretien put his French allies' demands for a more aggressive strategy in popular support for the Bosnian mission, and Chretien appears determined to avoid any domestic closure for a unilateral withdrawal before he hosts the G-7 summit this month in Halifax. "Our instructions are to be good corporate citizens and not to play the music," said one Canadian official in Europe. "We are back to a world of big power politics, and that is not hard to return to here. We are just another troop contributor now, and no one is asking our opinion."

The Chretien government's determination to keep a low profile was apparent during the two-day Noordwijk NATO gathering. In fact, before meeting Canadian reporters on the second day of the session, Ouellet sent word through his staff that he did not even want to answer questions in Bosnia. The matter was debated, but his tone remained consistently courteous toward those who held Canadian troops prisoner. Only three months ago, Ottawa headed Spanish fishing crews who dared take too many turbot as "environmental criminals" and "pirates," and authorized patrol boats to fire shots across their bows. But when asked if he would characterize the Bosnian Serbs as "the bad guys" for using peacekeepers as human shields, Ouellet demagogically reinforced Ottawa's refusal to take sides in the Bosnian war. "No," he said, "it is not enhancing any cause to say they are the good guys and those are the bad guys."

Others were less reserved. The Contact Group (comprising representatives of the United States, Germany, France, Britain and Russia), which is responsible for finding a diplomatic solution to the war, met in emergency session in the Hague on Sunday and decided that Bosnian Serb leaders would be held "personally accountable" for the hostages' injury. And after weeks of speculation that French troops might pull out of Bosnia entirely, recently elected President Jacques Chirac sent a naval task force to the Adriatic Sea, and British ships for the idea of using force to punch through the Bosnian Serb siege of Sarajevo.

Western leaders took pains to make that sending a small robust force to Bosnia was not simply a symbolic gesture to get enough firepower into place to cover a UN pullout. They also selected a flagship report issued last week by UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, that argued for scaling down UNPROF's size and mandate. If countries like Britain and France want to take a tougher line, said Boutros-Ghali, they should do it on their own. But the influence over events in Bosnia is declining, and UNPROF is now little more than a fig leaf for the big powers. Bosnia has clearly become a stepping ground for their clashing interests. American insistence for the beleaguered UN headquarters in Bosnia support for their Serbian brethren, and German insistence for the Bosnian Serbs to stay. History is not an academic exercise in the Balkans—and the combatants, especially the Serbs, routinely exploit those differences.

There was more in the fact that NATO and Bosnian foreign ministers took their big power politics to a Dutch town last week, it was a 13th-century Dutch port, Bruggen, the father of modern international law, who outlined the differences between "good" and "bad" conflict.



Canada's Recheer retaliation



ON ASSIGNMENT
BRUCE WALLACE
IN NOORDWIJK

Zagreb, Croatia, the UN secretary's headquarters. But many of the remaining 257 were still scattered in small groups across Bosnia and UN commanders did not even know the exact whereabouts of many of the Serbs. President Slobodan Milosevic promised French President Jacques Chirac in a telephone call that the others would be

and prepared guarantees for those who waged "internal" war. The parties who assembled about a Dutch beachhead to debate the Bosnian conflict were the same ones who avoided the spirit of Gino's to turn back from the official occupation of Kuwait in 1991. Those that one brief moment, however, the MacMillan-Bloedel has resumed its international politics with a sequence, underlining the fact that competing nations of interests have little room for compromise about security.

In that respect, the Bosnian dilemma represents a crossroads. It asks whether the international community will continue trying to extend the rule of law, or whether the world will regress into medieval barbarism in which marauding warriors call the shots. "There are some sophistries in the British Foreign Office who believe that the next continuity of this conflict will be international law itself," says John Keegan, widely regarded as Britain's leading military historian.

Just across town from the site of the Contact Group's meeting is The Hague in the United Nations' best hope for upholding the rule of law in Bosnia. It is the headquarters of the United Nations' war crimes tribunal, which is investigating charges that Serbian, Muslim and Croatian soldiers broke international conventions during the bloody herding of the former Yugoslavs. The tribunal has already filed charges against 21 Serbs, none of them high ranking officers, the Croatian President, the Serbian, Australian deputy prosecutor, acknowledges that the court's credibility depends on its being able to bring charges against all leaders who ordered or failed to stop the commission of war crimes.

In fact, Blewett says charges will be laid within months against Karadzic and his senior military official, Gen. Ratko Mladic, which would effectively make the two Bosnian Serb leaders prisoners of

French soldiers escort civilians in Sarajevo; rapid reaction



their not declared ramp state—they would be subject to arrest if they left Bosnia. The prospect of such indictments enrages the Bosnian Serbs. "The Bosnian Serbs regard themselves as good, intelligent, educated European who are getting a raw deal," says Keegan. "The trouble, they are a people who believe that history has dealt them a dirty deal, and they violently object to their leaders being treated as war criminals."

Some observers say that the war crimes indictments have already hardened Bosnian Serb attitudes, and contributed to a recent increase in shelling. Certainly, the tribunal's hunt for war criminals is making the Contact Group's diplomatic task harder. Their strategy is aimed at splitting Serbia's Mladic from the Bosnian Serbs by offering to lift economic sanctions against Serbia, imposed when war broke out in the Bosnian in 1992 in return for the president

recognizing the borders of his Croatian and Bosnian neighbors. But Mladic, who risks being charged with a war crime, it was his well-documented plan for a Greater Serbia, after all, which sparked the latest Balkan war.

Whether ending Mladic's parish status will reduce the fighting in Bosnia is an uncertain scenario, at best. Unwilling to master the kind of international consensus for action that solved back Slobodan Milosevic's mission of Kosovo, the international community has set itself for muddling through in Bosnia, for risking lives without a corresponding willingness to use force, far compromising on principle in a desperate attempt to cut a deal with a possible war criminal in that regard, even with the exceptional close-riding and space by the far from all sides, last week was much like any other in the long history of this dirty war. □

A Canadian perspective

Defence Minister David Collier speaks to Maclean's in his prepared to depart last Friday for meetings in Paris and Brussels with NATO and European Union defense ministers to discuss the escalating Bosnian conflict.

Maclean's: While other nations talk about force if necessary, Canada talks about negotiation. Other nations demand the release of hostages, we publicly ask.

Collier: Yes, we've demanded. We've demanded their actions—we've called it Macdonald. What more can you use in terms of language?

Maclean's: Would you call the Serbs tomorrow, an ultimatum?

Collier: It's not going to get into what's right and who's wrong. The fact of the matter is that they have used tactics which go

beyond anything acceptable in war. But we think that the way to get the hostages out is by trying to have a diplomatic settlement.

Maclean's: What is the most compelling reason in front of Canadian foreign policy?

Collier: There are a lot of eyes abroad who say we are part of the problem, that we should just let them fight it out. At what cost to humanity? We've got to get these people back to the table.

Maclean's: You were once from an meeting that Canada be part of the Contact Group, the five-country committee that is responsible for finding a diplomatic solution in the conflict. Yet Foreign Minister David Collier now says that Canada does not want to be part of the group. What is the government's position?

Collier: A year ago, we made the case that we wanted to be part of it. It didn't happen. So let's not cry over spilled milk. Since then, we've been getting our terms across.

Maclean's: Would Canada not say more to force the hostages by force?

Collier: It wouldn't come to that. Look, don't put us in the corner of domestic. We express our views and then a consensus emerges. We're there 100 per cent with our NATO allies. We just bring a different perspective.

Maclean's: Do Canadians care about this conflict?

Collier: The more people see their own people chained to poles, the more they are aware. They were aware three years ago, in Somalia and Croatia, when people were locked to death and tortured, when there were mass graves and ethnic cleansing. By and large, that has stopped because of the UN presence. We're going through a rough patch now. It's not prepared to say we should throw in the towel. There are others who say, well, just send in more troops and blind everybody to tell I don't think that we are at that stage.



Collier: 'There are a lot of eyes'

SPACECRAFT TAKES OFF.



SPACECRAFT. Out-of-the-box thinking by MacMillan Bloedel researchers led to the invention of space-age technology to manufacture a giant corrugated shipping container. It not only uses recycled fibre, but is recyclable and reusable. Another innovation by MacMillan Bloedel.

MacMillan Bloedel Limited
Making the most of a measurable resource

A soldier's story

A Canadian recalls his detentions in Bosnia

During an armistice halt of duty on the far west in September, Sgt Michael Sartin was detained by the Bosnian Serbs three times, for a total of six days. A former leader in the Royal 22nd Regiment (see *View Dead*), based in Victoria, *Quebec*, Sartin served in the region from November 1992 to May 1994 and was released to return there in September 1993. Sartin, 32, who is married with two children, speaks about his experiences with Maclean's Ottawa Bureau Correspondent Luke Fisher.

The day I arrived in Sarajevo, I was scared because there were rumors all around. I knew a lot of my family killing them I didn't think I would survive. There, as soon as we got to Vukovar [a city in Croatia], the Serbs handcuffed us with mortar fire. My God, it was crazy. I never, never felt safe.

There weren't many people who wanted to serve in the Serb areas, as they saw the Van Doo because the Serbs respected us. After an attack on a [Serb] hospital in Vukovar, we showed up and cleared the place. Everybody was sick, people were lying in the street. We were supposed to leave after we finished, but I refused and we ended up staying for another two months to help out. Things like that made the Serbs respect us. Whenever they tried to go to war, we would get our weapons down and talk. The Serbs were amazed and would say, "We're not used to soldiers acting like that."

In December, 1993, Lt. Gen. (Michael) Bane, the British commander of UN forces at the time, and he was tired of Serb heavy weapons causing trouble in one area, and he sent the Canadian to take the weapons. That's when we were taken hostage the first time.

The Serbs surrounded us, saying that everybody had to be taken. They said that if we didn't go, they would kill us. They said that if we weren't gone in two hours, they would drop mortars on our backs. We received orders to move into the hills. As soon as we did, the Serbs put mines around us and took us hostage. The commander came to us and said, "Sarty, Mike, but we don't like you're being an." There were 18 of us. He said we'd probably

be released the next day and that we shouldn't be scared. But we were advised by the other Serbs for allowing ourselves to be handled so easily. They released us three days later, after making their point.

The Serbs, Madson and Crasin play the same games. The Madson took hostages in



Sartin: 'My God, it was crazy. I never, never felt safe.'

Vukovar—they didn't want us to leave because then they would be killed by the Serbs. The Serbs took us to protect them from the NATO air. And the Croats took us in Sarajevo because they feared being killed by the Serbs. It was a crazy course.

At first when we were detained, we were frightened, but I quickly grew to know that the Serbs weren't going to harm us. The more important problem was the NATO

bombing. We were worried that bombs would be dropped on us.

In fact, the Serbs treated us pretty well. My guys didn't like the food, so we asked to bring in some Canadian food. The Serbs said "No problem." The French and British hostages did not get their food brought in, but we had a better relationship. We also spent a lot of time chatting with the Serb commander. We talked about the war and tried to understand each other's points. We never disagreed with them.

The biggest problem was that so many of the Bosnian Serb soldiers were drunk. They were drunk through the night, and drunk in the morning. When you go to talk to these people you must take some alcohol or nobody will talk to you. So everybody in drink and for the Serb commanders it isn't main. It's not like the Canadian or British army. They are mercenaries and lots of soldiers don't want the war to stop because when it stops they have nothing to do.

My response to NATO air strikes is, "No, no, no." Every time a top goes, I turn to my wife and say, "Tomorrow we're going to have hostages." We should stop the air strikes now, apply diplomatic pressure and get our guys released. It was very stupid to have the air strikes on May 25 and 26. The Americans may have bombed, but remember that they don't have any air on the ground. The only way we can solve things is by talking, not with weapons.

When I was that television hostage at Camp [Travnik] Bosnia, I asked him I could say to his family, "Don't be nervous." The Serbs did it for TV, and everybody knows that. I doubt he's being held like that [had ended in a job] all the time. They wanted to make a point. That is a weapon of fear. The Serbs are not auto—they're fighting a war. I don't think it's a good way, but it has worked for them.

When I came time to return to Canada, I told my commander I wanted to go and see good life in some of the Serbs. He said no, because he was worried about us being taken hostage again. I wish I could have said goodbye to that Serb commander who treated us as well as I was disappointed.

To be honest, the first month I came home I could all the time. I don't know if, exactly. After that, I talked to my friends and family about the children and the old people I saw in my section, and my wife and son. I actually tried to kill himself and a third had his wife from him. We have problems, but I'll be glad to get back home in September. I feel my place is in Bosnia, helping the people.



What Matters to Canadians?

That's a big question. And one that Maclean's never loses sight of. In fact, we build our magazine around that question every week.

Because we don't just cover the news -- we cover what matters to you as a Canadian. From peace in the Middle East to Canadian peace-keepers abroad, from the state of our health care system to our state of mind, Maclean's tells you what is happening.

Subscribe to Maclean's for just 89¢ a week and get reliable, concise, colorful information about the issues. No clutter. No quick fixes. No glib answers. Maclean's -- we cover what matters to Canadians.

Phone 1-800-268-6811
or fax 1-416-596-2510.

Maclean's

Just 89¢ a Week Now!

✓ YES! I want what matters. Send me one year (52 issues) of Maclean's for over 2/3 off the cover price!

Name

Address

City Province Postal Code

☐ Please bill me ☐ Cheque (add \$2. with GST) ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐ AMEX

Card No.

Expiry Signature

Clip & mail to: Maclean's, Box 4032, Station A, Toronto, ON M5W 4B6

Offer valid only in Canada until June 30, 1995.
52 issues @ 89¢ = \$46.36 (GST not included)



One day
all return
counters
will look
like this.

This is the future.

It's called **Roving Rapid Return™** and it's a service Avis offers to help speed our customers through the car return process. Using a hand held computer, an Avis representative will meet you right at your car when you return and issue you a receipt on the spot.*

You don't have to go to a check-in counter. You don't have to stand in line. And it's available when time matters most—during peak periods at major airports across North America.

Roving Rapid Return. It's another Avis first and it's just one more way "We try harder", using tomorrow's technologies to make your life easier today.

Get going with Roving Rapid Return by calling your travel professional now, or Avis directly at:

1-800-TRY-AVIS
(1-800-879-2847)

AVIS
We try
harder



World NOTES

BELLING UNDER FIRE

Seventeen Chinese dissidents imprisoned for their role in the 1989 Tiananmen Square pro-democracy protests appealed to Beijing for better jail conditions and for freedom. The appeal was signed by Yu Zhesan, an activist sentenced to life in prison for throwing eggs at a portrait of Mao Tse-tung. The human-rights group Amnesty International, meanwhile, condemned China for a recent crackdown on potential dissidents in advance of the 50th anniversary of the Tiananmen massacre on June 4.

RUSSIAN RESIGNATION

After a prolonged feud with Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev, Gen. Alexander Lebed, an outspoken critic of Moscow's ongoing war with separatist Chechnya, resigned as commander of the country's 14th army, based in the breakaway Trans-Dniester region of Moldova. Lebed's decision fueled speculation that the popular general may challenge Boris Yeltsin for the Russian presidency in elections to be held next June.

HISTORIC VISIT

Protesters in Dublin threw eggs at Prince Charles during the first official visit to Ireland by a member of the British Royal Family since the republic gained independence in 1922. While the law to the throne was warmly received by most Irish people, critics attacked his ceremonial leadership of a British parade segment that killed 14 demonstrators in Northern Ireland in 1972.

SMOKING AND BREAST CANCER

A Danish study found that women who smoke for more than 30 years are 60 per cent more likely than nonsmokers to develop breast cancer. The findings, based on a study of 3,240 women, did not find an increased risk of breast cancer among women who smoked for 29 years or less.

WARTIME COMPENSATION

Austria's parliament voted to pay compensation to an estimated 90,000 people persecuted during Adolf Hitler's Nazi rule. Vienna has established a \$60-million fund for war refugees and those imprisoned in concentration camps because they were Jews, Communists or homosexuals.

DISSENT RELEASED

The Cuban government released leading dissident Yndira Fariñas from jail. Fariñas, a journalist sentenced in 1992 to 10 years in prison for rebellion, vowed to continue the fight for democracy and human rights on the Communist-ruled island.



HOPE AMID THE RUINS: Rescue workers carry a six-year-old girl to safety after the worst earthquake in Russian history leveled Nizhnyonogorsk, a tiny oil town on the country's far east. More than 1,000 bodies were pulled from the rubble last week, and Russian officials expected the death toll from the quake, which hit Sakhalin Island on May 28, to surpass 2,000. Rescuers with sniffer dogs mounted a round-the-clock search in the wreckage of several collapsed multi-story buildings.

Graphic evidence

In Los Angeles, prosecutors in the trial of O.J. Simpson wrapped up the DNA phase of their case after presenting nearly a month of evidence that they claim links the former football great directly to the murders of his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend Ronald Goldman. Defense lawyer Barry Schick, meanwhile, maintained that the results should be ignored. He argued that the blood was either planted by detectives in a plot to secure Simpson's arrest or was so badly contaminated by sloppy collection and storage that the tests produced inaccurate results.

Meanwhile, Judge Lance Ito ruled that 39 photographs of the victims, including one showing Nicole Brown Simpson's head almost severed from her body, could be shown to the jury. He described the photos as "horrific," "gripping," and "disturbing."

Simpson's defense team had strongly objected to the introduction of the pictures, taken during autopsies on the bodies, so the jurors they served no useful purpose other than to "sicken" the jurors and prejudice them against the defendant.

Tourism scandal

The German government promised to reorganize its tourism office in New York City in the wake of a series of scandals—one at which focused on a directive to discourage "black, Jews, Hispanics and Asians" from visiting Germany. One worker has been dismissed for disseminating documents questioning the Holocaust. The public relations nightmare also includes lawsuits totaling about \$39.6 million from employees who claim to have been victims of sexual and racial discrimination.

Champagne flowed freely at the annual meeting of Seagram Co. Ltd., last week in the ballroom of a downtown hotel in Montreal. A standing-room-only crowd of more than 600 shareholders showed up to enjoy one of the meeting's favorite traditions—an open bar stocked with Seagram brands like Charles Heidsieck, Moët champagne and Tropicana orange juice. If the overflow turned out to be a bar bit that is higher than normal, Seagram top brass have only three selves to blame. In April, the company sold its highly profitable stake in the chemical company C. I. de Port de Nemours and Co. for \$11.5 billion, and bought 88 per cent of Hollywood entertainment giant MCA Inc. for \$7.8 billion. Investors, who appeared nervous and agitated by this abrupt change, turned out to learn quite about what company chief executive Edgar Bronfman Jr. and his father, Seagram chairman Edgar Bronfman, describe as a "historic transformation" of the trading conglomerate. At one point, shareholder George Yip of Montreal questioned the younger Bronfman about the wisdom of selling du Pont, which he described as a "slap in the face" but later, Ron, too, seemed reconciled to Seagram's new course. "MCA," Ron said. "That's the future. The mind here is always more information. It's becoming the biggest industry."

For his part, Bronfman said that a detailed financial review of MCA was better than expected. "In fact," said the 49-year-old Bronfman on his first anniversary as chief executive, post-acquisition financial analysis shows that "the businesses we bought are

Edgar Bronfman Jr. says MCA will boost Seagram profits



Bronfman engages with shareholders on Tuesday

ACTION MOVIES

even more valuable than we believed them to be." He predicted that initially MCA will grow about one-third of Seagram's profits, but that is significantly less than the profit contribution made by du Pont, which amounted to about 65 per cent of Seagram's \$1.1 billion net income last year. As for critics who point to other investors who have failed in their forays into entertainment, Bronfman said, "I see this as a very low risk investment." Bronfman says that entertainment, Seagram's du Pont heirloom for MCA, also company is positioned to be one of the fastest-growing industries.

Although other big investors have been lured by the entertainment and media's potential, they have frequently earned craters and sometimes disappointing returns. Because

of that disappointing track record, Seagram's share price suffered when the two transactions were first announced. From the loss of du Pont's reliable—albeit lost-profit contributions to Seagram, where the core leverage business has matured, the company's share price plunged by \$8 to \$36. Since then, however, the share price has rebounded from that loss, climbing to \$41 at the end of last week.

Price is one of the main reasons for Bronfman's optimism. Seagram bought MCA from Matsushita Electric Industrial Co. Ltd. of Japan without having to go through a public auction that might have bid up the price to less economic levels. Matsushita, which kept a 20-per-cent stake in MCA—and therefore as an investor to ensure that the company

operates profitably—offered Bronfman the opportunity to make a bid on friendly terms. As a result, Bronfman says, Seagram secured "a fantastic price." Anybody who takes the time to understand the industry in which we invested, the company that we bought and the price that we paid," said Bronfman, "will understand that this is an outstanding deal."

The true financial state of Matsushita did not immediately appear because Matsushita did not release the company's financial results. But according to an investment by the New York City Investment from Wasserstein Perella Securities Inc., which was distributed by Seagram at the annual meeting, MCA's most profitable segment is its music division, which includes Golden Records, MCA Records and an extensive music library. Its earnings

are estimated at \$250 million before interest, taxes and depreciation. Universal Pictures, MCA's movie studio, which comes with a library of 2,000 feature films including *Grease*, *Plunk* and *E.T.*, the two largest-growing movies ever made, is the next most profitable division with earnings of about \$175 million. The movie division is closely followed by its Universal Studios theme parks in Hollywood, Calif., and Orlando, Fla., which are owned from Universal movies and contribute about \$130 million. Other assets include cable networks, book publishing, retail products and live theatre chain.

Other entertainment analysts are more cautious in assessing MCA's prospects. Dennis McElroy of Josephthal Lyon & Ross Inc. in New York says that there is still not enough detailed information available on MCA's finances to assess the deal. On the subject of the deal's price tag, he added: "If they [MCA] did \$500 million in operating income last

year, then \$7.8 billion looks like a pretty expensive purchase." The only reason for paying that much, said McElroy, would be that Seagram believes it can significantly improve MCA's performance by making management changes. For her part, Jessica Red Cohen, entertainment analyst with Merrill Lynch Inc. in New York, says that MCA "has had just an absolutely horrible performance in the last few years" because of management problems. But, she says, Seagram paid a "reasonable" price for the company and the deal could pay off if the new owners can boost the company's performance. "Edgar Bronfman Jr. certainly knows his way around the business," she noted.

Complaining that the media has focused too much attention on the movie studio component of the deal, Bronfman underscored that only 25 per cent of MCA's cash flow comes from that division. But at the same time, he also noted that much of MCA's appeal is related to the fact that it has one of only six major movie studios in the world, all of them in operation for more than 50 years.

Throughout the meeting and for media and analysts briefings that followed, Bronfman emphasized the fundamental similarities between Seagram's long traditions and the entertainment business. He claims that both enterprises depend on selling people's dreams to consumers—although in the entertainment business, the brands are movie titles rather than whiskies. And movies are rare

depends largely on the popularity of the original movie. For that reason, much of the recent scrutiny of MCA has focused on the movie that MCA hopes will be this summer's blockbuster, *Waterworld*, starring Kevin Costner. The movie's budget has now mushroomed to \$100 million, giving it the questionable distinction of being the most expensive movie ever produced. Although it is still being edited for general release in late July, it is widely rumored in Hollywood circles to be a dud. That Bronfman, who said that he recently saw an early cut and considers it a "terrible" movie, stands that its success or failure is not crucial to MCA's financial performance or to the outcome of Seagram's acquisition. He says the movie is out of character for Universal's usually conservative management. "If I was going to pick a studio that would make a movie filmed almost entirely on water, that would cost that much money," Bronfman told Montreal in an interview, "Universal would have been the last company on my list."

Indeed, Bronfman has at least some personal insight into Universal's management style. The last of the three films that he made before joining Seagram in 1992 is an account of the president of the studio, starring Jack Nicholson, was made at Universal. As for *Waterworld*, Bronfman said that most of the high cost is due to the difficulty of making a movie shot on water. "You'll see a lot of that money on the screen," he said.

For now, Bronfman has bigger worries than *Waterworld*. At the top of his list is lining up new top management for MCA, which has been headed for almost 50 years by chairman Lew Wasserman, 82, and his longtime associate president Sidney Shelsberg, 60. Bronfman was reported to be in the middle of negotiations with Hollywood agent and power broker Michael Ovitz, co-founder of the Creative Artists Agency, to take over at MCA. At the Seagram annual meeting, however, Bronfman would only say that he and Ovitz are friends.

But the delay in lining up new MCA management is stalling decisions on two other key moves, what to do with Seagram's \$1.7 billion stake in communications giant Time Warner Inc., and whether to buy the CBS television network. Bronfman, saying that Seagram's Time Warner stake is now "an investment—nothing more our loss," led speculation that it will eventually be sold. As for the suggestion that he is interested in buying a telephone network that would serve as a distribution channel for MCA's movie and television products, Bronfman seemed even less certain. "I don't know the answer to that," he said. "I can tell you that figuring out how to grow MCA is not the top of our list of priorities."

Certainly, Seagram shareholders hope that Bronfman will maintain the tradition of growth that his father started. The tradition that his father continued. It is still to come to MCA, however, whether the challenge posed at this year's meeting was best described as a toast to the past or a greeting for the future.

BRONFMAN DANCEWALK



Costner in *Waterworld*: questionable distinction of being the most expensive movie ever produced

being extended to the point where box-office receipts are succumbed surprised by attention from video rentals, the sale of related toys and clothing, entertainment parks, and video games. Walt Disney Co., the leader in this kind of lucrative fan extension in the entertainment business, has opened a chain of popular retail stores that sell a wide range of products featuring Disney characters.

Still, the success of those specific products

Glittering prospects

Diamond finds create a mini-boom in the North

In a recent investment report, dismissed industry analyst Peter Müller of London, Ont., declared "The diamond market is secure while man remains selfish and able to indulge one of life's few certainties, the vanity of women." Over the next few months, however, migrating caribou, rather than human vanity, will help determine the fate of a proposal to launch Canada's first diamond mine: The Bathurst caribou herd, which numbers around 350,000, passes every spring and fall through the remote Lac de Gras region of

the Northwest Territories, will be a dominant land that experts say will play a major role in Canada's economic future. The province is a significant source of the precious metals in the world economy. The province's economy, generated by the 1990s, is a mix of mining and a few of the world's top mining companies to its resource-rich lands. In 2000, 300 km north of Yellowknife, the province's mining industry is booming. The province is a source of hundreds of jobs. The province's mining industry is a significant environmental impact. The province's mining industry is a significant environmental impact. The province's mining industry is a significant environmental impact.

The man credited with setting off Canada's diamond rush in the early 1980s is geologist Chuck Fipke, who, after 10 years of prospecting in the area, found a world-renowned new Point of View in 1982. Fipke's discovery, the 2000 discovery by Fipke, now chairman of Taz Mor Minerals Ltd., of Blythe, B.C., a small, exploration-oriented mining company, proved that diamonds can be found in Canada in rock formations known as kimberlites such as the Northwest Territories, as well as in the northern of Montana, deep lakes, and even in the ocean. Fipke's discovery has also led to the discovery of kimberlites at other sites in the Territories as well as in Saskatchewan, Ontario and Quebec. And while the diamond search on Canada's East Coast has failed to turn up the precious stones it has resulted in the discovery of one of the most important types of ore found in Canada, the world's first 25 years, around 1980, in 1980.

After his death, Hylton, who pursued his own unconventional theory about where disordered

deposits might be found in Canada, joined with NRP Diamonds, a subsidiary of Australia mining company Broken Hill Proprietary Co. Ltd., to help develop the projects. NRP now has a 50-percent stake in the Lac de Gras diamond reserve.

The diamond discovery is already spinning off benefits in different directions. Mayor Lowell says that it is largely responsible for the recent economic stability in the territorial capital, helping to compensate for Ottawa's losses and cutbacks in the region. In turn,

also pointed to the project summary it has provided to the environmental assessment panel. "Results compare favorably with those at other diamond mines in the world," the document states. The company estimates that its mine would provide 600 jobs and operate for about 25 years.

But not before Ottawa, which has primary responsibility for natural resources and the environment in the Territories, is satisfied that the carbon will not be unduly disturbed. To that end, RHP promises to develop the site carefully. Hearings on its proposals could begin as early as this fall, with a decision on whether the project can proceed to follow in spring or early next year.

Despite the moves towards opening Canada's first diamond mine, the stock market—after a flurry of excitement in 1992 and 1993—has largely cooled towards diamond-related investments. Last August, the an-





Troubled Ontario companies can likely no longer look to the province for aid

Bob Rae, Ontario's
Liberal Party leader

BUSINESS

The end of interventionism

The bright corner office of Ontario's premier is the Queen's Park legislative building is decorated with several economies of the New Democratic Party's interventionist economic philosophy. On Bob Rae's credenza are two little white plastic models of Canadian B-200 Superjets, one with a 1,800-mile range and a \$23-million price tag that are painted and fitted at Toronto by the de Havilland division of Bombardier Inc. Rae is proud of these two executives from de Havilland, in which Ontario taxpayers took a 49-percent stake in 1992. They represent just one of several companies that were saved from financial collapse by the direct investment of his government. About a year after he was elected as premier in September, 1990, Rae also bailed out Sparco Falls Power and Paper Co. in Kapuskasing, Ont. Rae's Liberal government in 1992. They represent just one of several companies that were saved from financial collapse by the direct investment of his government. About a year after he was elected as premier in September, 1990, Rae also bailed out Sparco Falls Power and Paper Co. in Kapuskasing, Ont. Rae's Liberal government in 1992.

pointless—perhaps—or add new ones to the collection. Both the Liberal and Progressive Conservative parties—which have evolved less by far in favour of the NDP in pre-election party polls—have firmly pledged to steer clear of such entanglements, despite their apparent recent success. And according to Toronto's York University economics professor Fred Leach, that commitment is positive news. "Those rescues were born out of panic, not policy. It is inappropriate to throw in money without an idea of how to turn around a dying company," he said. "In Rae's case, he's been lucky. But I am willing to bet that run-of-the-mill will not continue."

Even Liberal economic development and trade critic Monte Kwinter, a former provincial minister of industry, trade and technology, agrees that Rae's use of public funds—through grants, loan guarantees or interest-free loans—has turned out well in three out of the four rescue operations. Only the province's \$81-million investment in Ontario Dies Industries Inc., says Kwinter, a

"total disaster." But, he points out, the other interventions succeeded in large part because of a demand in the provincial economy accompanied by an upturn in the commodity—oil—stock—markets. Kwinter likes to see the NDP in power and steel mills—such as those in the communities of both Sparco Falls and Algoma Steel—Newspaper prices have risen from \$900 to \$995 a ton in 18 months, and renewed demand for steel has sent its price from \$129 to \$185 a ton since the depths of the recession in 1992. The jury is still out on the de Havilland, where Montreal-based Bombardier is scouting for signs of interest in a new, bigger version of its Dash 8 aircraft before committing to expanding the Toronto company, in which it holds a 50-percent stake.

When Rae decided to tackle Algoma's problems in 1992, the company was ground-reel by high debt, an aging, inefficient plant and depressed demand for its steel pipe and

train rails. It was on the verge of failure, a collapse that would have pushed South St. Mary's unemployment rate to 30 per cent. The province contributed \$10 million in bank loan guarantees and about \$17 million in early retirement benefits to restructure the steelmaker's workforce.

In exchange for wage and benefit concessions of about \$3 on the average hourly wage of \$19.70, which helped make the company more competitive, the restructuring resulted in a 90-percent stake in the company going to Algoma's 3,390 workers—down from more than 6,000 employees prior to the restructuring. The remaining 40 per cent was initially owned by Algoma's bankers, which have since sold their shares on the open market. The efficiency of the new Algoma and the rise in steel prices meant that workers and bankers alike have been rewarded for taking a risk in the company's future common share prices have jumped from pennies a share to \$8.38 last week, and the company turned a \$127-million profit in 1994 on sales of \$2.1 billion.

Now, a referendum that will see mortgage rates and \$150 million in new shares sold to the public is expected to back the province out of a \$500-million rolling unit that will pro-

ceed the firm. High-priority debt shunts need of to make into gains, a potentially profitable new market for Algoma. The steelmaker never had to dip into the government's loan guarantees and Leach says the provincial taxpayer's \$17-million contribution is more than paid back by the welfare costs that were avoided and the economic gains that came from keeping a major company alive and its thousands of employees working.

Yet even in South St. Mary's, the NDP's ballot failed to win the party new friends. Tom Mayer, Joe Frasca local economic developer when Algoma was on the brink of failure—be estimating that the city of \$2,900 would have witnessed 38-percent unemployment and putting up with it if the steel mill had closed. South St. Mary's "I acknowledge the province's role, it's a positive check on its record. But there are other policies that we disagree on." And in the provincial election campaign, Frasca openly backed the Liberals. He added: "If you go down to the factory gate, you'll find some of the employees saying: 'Bob Rae is taking just a bit more credit for Algoma, and not enough credit in being given to the steelworkers' community.'"

A similar economic success story has played out in Kapuskasing, Ont. But put together a plan first, new Ontario Hydro advanced a \$34-million loan to Sparco Falls, along with 10 years of free power. As well, Ontario Hydro agreed to purchase Sparco Falls generating plant for \$142 million. That money was reemployed by employees left by Sparco Falls into its former owners, Kimberley-Clark Corp. of Dallas and The New York Times Co. of New York City. The arrangement with Hydro left the government on the hook if the power plant failed as environmental assessment. But the environmental approval was eventually given and, currently, 52 per cent of Sparco Falls is owned by its 1,000 workers. Members of the community own about seven per cent of the company and the

remainder is owned by Montreal-based banker and paper maker Tembec Inc.

With newsgroup demand soaring in the past 18 months, Sparco Falls generated a \$14.7-million profit last year on revenues of \$142.1 million, and the price of employees' shares in the company, which sold independently on Canada's over-the-counter market, have risen to more than five dollars a share from just a dollar when the rescue went through. Sparco Falls is now looking to the private sector for a \$400-million capital investment in new machinery. And last week, it announced that it had signed up an 18-percent stake in Linamar, Ont.-based luxury firm Malabar Inc., a move first came as a prelude to Tembec's \$350-million takeover bid for Malabar.

For their part, both Liberal and Progressive Conservative leaders pledged that they would preserve the NDP legislation that allowed 49-percent ownership by workers in their employer. But Kwinter outlined: "We want to provide opportunities for employees, but to go out and encourage people to invest their life savings with no guarantees for the future is irresponsible. And that's what some of these deals meant to the workers."

Closer to Queen's Park, the de Havilland of Toronto is near collapse—and the work force of 2,750 was on the line—when Boeing Co. of Seattle opted in March, 1992, to sell the money-losing aircraft manufacturer, which also had a history of labor problems. The NDP government stepped in with a direct investment of \$40 million and it also on the hook for 50 per cent of \$250 million in federal and provincial government assistance being provided over a five-year period that ends early in 1995. As a result, Ontario taxpayers now own 49 per cent of de Havilland, while Montreal-based Bombardier Inc. holds the remaining 51 per cent, as well as an option to buy the province's stake for \$40 million.

While Bombardier does not report financial details and the province also does not dis-



Algonquin Steel
factories (above)
and de Havilland jets
(right): "Those rescues
were born out of panic,
not policy. In Rae's case,
he's been lucky. But I am willing to bet that run-of-the-mill will not continue."



close connection to the profits, or losses, from de Haseltin's performance, Benharder's aerospace division, which includes the de Haseltin and Canadian units, earned a \$161-million profit last year on revenues of \$3 billion. Benharder has undertaken to build the Express bus as long range corporate jets at the Haseltin and it is also in the running to become the production site for Benharder's new 70-seat version of the Dash 8-400 propeller-driven aircraft. The Liberal's Koster says it is too early to assess the potential of de Haseltin's bailout, but Ben has maintained that the aircraft manufacturer is a winner, with positive cash flow, and that the government's investment was imperative to salvage the sort of high-technology jobs that Ontario count. Koster is cautious in standard of being over the long term.

But, clearly, the case of Ontario Bus Industries is an ongoing problem. The company once employed 1,299 workers at plants in Mississauga and upstate New York, building about 600 buses a year. But, however, was crippled by a host of overly rapid expansion and a predatory pricing war with competitors. It now has only 155 employees in Ontario—and bus production has slowed to a trickle. The province now owns the outright, after foregoing \$96 million in losses and adding in \$15 million in new capital, and is selling the company to Western Star Truck Holdings Ltd. of Kelowna, B.C., for \$25 million in a deal dated to close later this month. But Ontario taxpayers could still end up owing up to 25 per cent of the new deal, which Western Star management claims it can turn around by improving internal controls and building a more efficient factory.

Ontario taxpayers will certainly experience less direct involvement in the provincial economy under a Progressive Conservative or Liberal government. The "Ontario" economic blueprint declares that "we will cut business subsidies and reduce government grants for total savings of \$500 million." Peter Vayns, press secretary for Conservative party leader Mike Harris, insists: "We do not believe that the government can go around picking winners and losers." The Liberal's Koster noted that a Liberal government would not make direct investments, but it would consider loan guarantees to troubled businesses on a case-by-case basis, particularly if a one-industry was threatened. But he added: "If the market says a company doesn't deserve to be saved, then it should not be saved." The very heart of a struggling company can hope for, says Koster, is that the government will not do that would back up funds coming from the private sector. Clearly, no matter which opposition party Ontario voters elect, some of Ben's favorite industrial adventures are heading into storage.

ANDREW WILLES

Sacred pensions in play

It's about time that anthropologists everywhere came out of the jungle and onto the street. Bay Street and Wall Street that is. After all, low speculators provide insight into human behavior like a good corporate takeover battle. When for this and things are better, it's better than any National Geographic special. Most recently, Gerry Schwartz, the alpha male of Green Corp., has tried to encroach on the established territory of George Taylor at John Labatt Ltd. with an

BY DAMORE MCMURDY

across the board \$2.3-billion takeover bid. As this display escalates, one can't help wondering what Ben Wood of Peterborough, Ont., thinks about the whole thing. Ben was a teacher for 30 years before he retired in

January. He is pictured in the 1994 annual report of the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan Board, wearing a cozy pullover sweater and smiling cheerily over a breakfast table. Wood doesn't appear to be the sort of fellow who would really get close association with the aggressive posturing and shrewd maneuvering of senior executives at Green or Labatt. But whether he likes it or not, Wood—and 200,000 other Ontario teachers—are involved in this nasty takeover fight. Their pension fund has contributed \$180 million to the Green we chose.

It isn't the first time that the Ontario teachers' pension fund has aggressively invested capital where others might reasonably fear to tread. The fund contributed \$150 million when Wallace McCain and his sons passed the bat to collect \$1.2 billion for their recent takeover of Maple Leaf Foods Inc. It is also backing Steve Sasser's controversial campaign—which is being criticized by several chief executives in a case trial of Maple Leaf Garden. In 1992, the teachers' fund greatly bought Olympia & York's stake in Trilon Financial Corp. for \$45 million from the Reichmann family. Meanwhile, another dimension of the fund has been occupying its managerial portfolio.

The teachers' fund is by no means the only pension fund that has deliberately broken with the traditional allocation of assets among stocks, fixed-income products and cash. Like others, its managers are anxious to earn above-average returns on their capital as the demands of a rapidly aging population increase. Understandably, they are also look-

ing for ways to double the return forcing them to invest 60 per cent of their billions in Canada's relatively small and often capital markets.

These are certainly commendable goals—especially in light of the fact that the prospects of collecting a full Canada Pension are steadily diminishing. But Schwartz, who's a hundred million here or there to a \$25-billion fund like the teachers'?

Still, the uncertainty of a CPP payout means that private pension money is more needed than ever for Canadian workers and should be screened from as much risk as possible. But in the case of the Labatt takeover, Green openly admits that it has had inadequate access to financial informa-



Taylor (left), Schwartz: aggressive posturing

tion about its quarry. In fact, Green managers are now trying to force the reluctant broker to disclose information that could undermine Green's valuation of its assets. The really scary thing is, as a leveraged buy-out, the accuracy of those calculations is absolutely critical to making a deal profitable. Without extremely detailed data in hand, the inherent risk of buying a company with debt to sell its parts is greatly magnified.

According to the law, pension fund managers are charged with anything which is a prudent manager. The trouble in that predicament is office is the eye of the beholder. Prudence, furthermore, is one of those things that doesn't always look the same in the rearview mirror. No doubt it was considered prudent at the time for the teachers' fund to spend the \$65 million on a pension placement of Trilon. But that was 1992. Today, the market value of that stake would be closer to \$31 million. Sasser managers at the fund say that some of that has since been sold—but they decline to provide any other details. Now that's the sort of prudence that could wipe a smile from the face of any retired teacher.

Not a worry in the world ... Thanks to Crown Life!

The CrownCare® Advantage

- COMPETITIVE PRICING
- UNIQUE PAYMENT OPTIONS
- FLEXIBLE PRODUCT PACKAGES
- COMMITMENT TO CUSTOMER SERVICE

For information call toll free 1-800-265-0261

BORN TO PERFORM



JUST LIKE A PARKER

 **PARKER
INSIGNIA**

The PARKER INSIGNIA Cobalt Blue has a beautiful translucent lacquer finish highlighted by Damonite G trim, a patented PARKER gold-plating process. The ball pen's performance is enhanced by the PARKER nifil® which will write clearly and smoothly throughout its long life. A pen that comes from a long line of famous performers. Like all PARKER writing instruments, it now comes with a Full Lifetime Warranty.

The PARKER INSIGNIA collection includes a wide range of other fountain, ball pen and pencil available. For the store nearest you, call 1 800 854 0385. ©1995 Ontario Canada Inc.

Grand & Toy Ltd.

Wilson Seasoners

Business NOTES

BITTER BEER BATTLE

The verbal jousting over John Labatt Ltd.'s future escalated, with the Toronto-based brewer's board of directors formally rejecting a \$2.3-billion takeover bid from Onex Corp. of Toronto. Onex' ownership must mated against Labatt's defensive tactics, which included a potential \$150-million tax hit on broadcasting assets for an unwanted sale. The Onex bid expires on June 9.

CHRYSLER BID STALLS

Kirk Karakhan dropped a \$31-billion takeover bid for Chrysler Corp. of Detroit. The Los Angeles-based billionaire was unable to arrange financing for his offer, launched in April with the help of former Chrysler chairman Lee Iacocca.

BANKING BOSS

Veteran Bank of Nova Scotia executive Bruce Birmingham, 53, was named president of Canada's fourth-largest bank, Birminghams, a senior corporate banker, fills a position left empty since January when former president Peter Goddard stepped the chairman's title to his replacement of chief executive.

MCCAIN FOOD FIGHT ENDS

Wallace McCain, 55, has ended his two-year legal squabble with older brother Hamilton, 57, for top spot of the \$2.3-billion frozen food empire. After being forced out as co-chief executive, Wallace asked the New Brunswick courts to force a corporate restructuring, but that lawsuit was dropped last week. Wallace and his two sons recently took over control of Maple Leaf Foods Inc. of Toronto.

TOWERING DEBT

To help Canadian National Railway reduce its debt load, Citicorp will purchase the company's real estate assets, including the CN Tower landmark in Toronto and 90,000 acres of land, for between \$400 and \$600 million. CN needs to reduce its debt from \$2.6 billion to about \$1.6 billion to win a credit rating that will make it attractive to investors.

CABLE GETS WIRED

Canada's three largest cable companies plan to link any of their customers who use home computers to the Internet using broadband cable. The move, slated for early next year, is aimed at grabbing business from telephone companies. Rogers Cablevision Ltd., Videotron Inc. and Shaw Communications Inc. will be the first to offer access to Internet information services, along with a library of CD-ROMs. Cable operators also intend to launch a service with up to 14 pay-per-view channels.



Chapais Sound protesters in 1988; old growth rain forest should be preserved

A clear cut decision

Controversial clear cut logging in Vancouver Island's Clayoquot Sound rain forest should be severely curtailed, recommends a report by a scientific panel appointed by the B.C. government. The report, which is not binding, was welcomed by environmental groups, while forest companies took comfort from assurances that they will still be able to harvest trees.

Clayoquot Sound's old growth rain forests have been a battleground for environmentalists and loggers since the province's 1977 government permitted MacMillan Bloedel Ltd. of Vancouver to harvest the area in April, 1993. More than 800 protesters, including 514 107 Serial Blockers, were arrested at the summer of 1993 for blocking a logging road into the sound. Environmentalists have also organized a global boycott of MacMillan Bloedel products to protest the company's logging practices.

Last week's report, which took 18 months to assemble, argues that the forest should only be logged at this stage or later trees thinned out, not at a later, in a process known as clear cutting. The panel put forward more than 120 recommendations aimed at establishing cutting practices that will sustain the forest. MacMillan Bloedel officials say many of the new requirements will make logging more expensive but

they are prepared to live with the new rules. B.C. Forestry Minister Andrew Frisier says the government will study the report and implement a new logging code within the next month.

Economy sputters

Signs of weakness in Canada's economy have prompted a cut in the prime rate of 25 basis points. Statistics Canada reported that production of goods and services slowed by 0.7 per cent in March, the second consecutive month of decline. And growth in the profits of Canadian companies has also slowed dramatically, with profits edging up by just 1.9 per cent in the first quarter, following a gain of 11.5 per cent in the fourth quarter of last year. Among the headline hit companies were those in auto manufacturing, financial services and banking.

Exporters have fuelled Canada's economic growth in recent years, but a sharp slowdown in the key U.S. market this winter has stifled demand for goods. Canada's banks reacted to the weak economic reports by chopping the prime interest rate a quarter point to nine per cent, a move aimed at jumpstarting the economy. Economists still falling interest rates should allow the Canadian economy to steer clear of recession.



Will Canada survive a post-national world?

BY PETER C. NEWMAN

Suddenly, everybody's talking about how large or fantastic it is that Canada is moving into the post-national world, even if no one is sure exactly what that means.

The signs are all around us. Last week, the secretary that walks like a man, Heritage Minister Michael Duggan, hinted that foreign ownership restrictions for broadcasting and cable companies would soon be lifted. At the same time, government support continues to be drastically slashed, not only for the CBC, but \$670 million over three years as well from the heritage department's budget, so that the nation's already vulnerable cultural industries have been placed on life-support systems. Even before the reduced budgets for Canadian content, foreign fare was being shown for 97 per cent of cinema screen time across the country, three-quarters of books sold were imported, fully 90 per cent of television fare and recorded music come from not-so-foreign. Canadian musicians have been hit particularly hard with cuts in rental music subsidies, while book publishers have lost their federal grants sliced in half. All of these moves have gone directly counter to Jean Chrétien's Red Book pledge that his government would support cultural activities, because "culture is the bedrock of national self-respect and national pride."

The fact that, despite these and other restrictive measures, the Canadian government keeps voting ever higher positions on the roster of public approval seems to be a measure of how low support for national cultural activities has sunk. This plays right into the hands of the American cultural entrepreneurs who regard Canada as nothing more than an extension of their northern sales districts. To them, the U.S.-Canada border is just an imaginary line on the map, like the equator. These global trade jockeys regard culture as Val Jones wrote recently in *The Globe and Mail*, "a largely [and] grossly, to be disregarded and sold, the value-neutral stuff that bears

To American cultural entrepreneurs, the U.S.-Canada border is just an imaginary line on the map, like the equator

through satellites and wires and screens. Given that definition, it makes no sense when other countries insist on treating culture differently than pig iron."

So, here's the first way we have become a post-national state—our arts and artists are, in effect, being told by the public sector that was once their patron: "Go play in the big world. Good luck and, oh, don't call us, we'll call you."

Another way we've slipped into post-national status is that there was a time not so long ago, when the country's important writers, poets were funded, if not by Canadians, at least by men and women who had reached some basic rapport with what being Canadian meant and why it was important in terms of the assurance they were being asked to lend. No more. Placed in charge last year of Canada's national newspaper, *The Globe and Mail*, was Roger Parkinson, who built from New York state and whose main contribution to clothing the world was his stint as a first lieutenant with the Green Berets in Nam. Holke Harris, the head of Air Canada is a Georgia boy who still connects to the identity issue in Atlanta. Colin Baker, the new director of the National Gallery, which is the

official arbiter of Canadian art, confessed after his appointment that his knowledge of our paintings was limited to "a few early 20th-century Canadian landscapes" he'd glimpsed in Dallas. The main art professors in Vancouver and Toronto have both followed the same example of appointing American directors recently. Incidentally, the argument here isn't that only those who are Canadian born and bred should take on the guidance of essential domestic agencies—otherwise, having been born in Austria, I could never have been editor of this magazine, which I was from 1970 to 1982. My contention is that those who are appointed ought to have some basic knowledge and appreciation of the country they are presumed to be serving.

The message is clear to run a Canadian cultural institution now requires no knowledge of country or people, but instead of how to handle the bottom line, which presumably were the qualifications of Mossburn Parkman, Bailey and Harris—though the last did have a couple of artists go bankrupt under him.

Another sign of these international times is that any Canadian emblem or symbol has become suspect and is gradually eliminated. When Canadian Pacific, the country's leading company, ordered a new corporate logo, it picked an American designer's version that featured stars and stripes. Air Canada, as well, used an American to design the new post job being introduced on its aircraft. The Canadian Football League is rapidly being transformed into a Canadian league that is stopping Grey Cup day from being the great Canadian occasion it once was. Hockey is becoming more and more of an American-owned game, the CRTC's Canadian content regulations have become a joke.

All of these trends started during the past decade when those Mulroney-lumped rioters set on what remained of Canadian nationalities, rendered its few remaining means of enforcement, such as the Foreign Investment Review Agency, and threw open the doors to foreign takeovers. The national economy was subordinated to the global economy, which in practical terms meant that the Americans took over most of the remaining profitable corporate assets. This applied equally to sovereignty, especially in the north. The Tory government broke its pledge to hold a polar expedition and, instead, then Defence Minister Ed McGuckin admitted that "defending Canada's Arctic waters will have to be left to the United States."

None of these disparate trends and events—which have been strengthened rather than repudiated by the Chrétien government—can destroy a country or its citizens' strong feelings of being part of it. But if the post-national fervor doesn't stop somewhere this side of nihilism, we might have to subscribe to the soon definition of Canada, proposed by Gorbalski, B.C., poet John Moore: "This multiculturally polarized state/mask on the 49th parallel we call a country."

That's not my Canada, and I hope it's not yours.

Perfect with seafood.



KVV + Paarl Wines

Just out of Africa.

THE SNEEZING SEASON

BY MARK NICHOLS

Along with sneezes, huddling noses and larger daylight hours, one of the surest signs that summer is near is the profusion of billboards across the land trumpeting the news that "It's Sneezing time again." Or it could be Carlin's dose, or Bittman's time—the season when hay fever sufferers stack up an over-the-counter antihistamine and dig in for the months of sniffing and sneezing ahead. It is also a time when some of the 70 per cent of Canadians who are allergic-day care workers—with just a slight air of superiority—what the first is all about. They might find out something—asthma can develop at any point in a person's life. There is, for instance, the case of Siobhán Skanes, who lives in Garder, N.B., with her husband and two children. Skanes had never had allergy problems until six years ago, when hay fever suddenly hit. Now, says the 35-year-old Skanes, as soon as spring arrives, "my eyes start to itch, my nose runs. I sneeze and I cough so much that I can't sleep at night. Sometimes, my nose actually begins to bleed from all the sneezing and coughing and nose-blowing. It just turns me down."

In towns and plants discharge their pollen into the spring and summer breezes, an estimated three million Canadians will be plagued by the most and aggravating symptoms of seasonal allergic rhinitis, otherwise known as hay fever. And hay fever is just one of the growing number of allergies that seem to be making more and more lives miserable. They include chronic rhinitis (a hay-fever-like condition that can be triggered by household dust), cat and dog allergies, and allergic reactions to widely consumed drugs and foods, including milk and peanuts, which in their most severe form can produce anaphylactic shock—a catastrophic response that kills at least a dozen Canadians annually.

Reliable statistics on the upsurge in allergies are scarce. But in a survey published a year ago, Statistics Canada found that 27 per cent of Canadians over the age of 15—or at least five million people—said that they suffered from allergies, up from 19 per cent in the late 1970s. Some experts think the apparent increase in allergies, which has been reported in most industrialized nations, may simply be the result of heightened awareness. But others are convinced that the spread is real. "A century ago," says Dr. Stuart Berger, a senior research scientist at Toronto's Wellko Health, "allergies like hay fever were almost unknown. Now, perhaps one in five people have allergies—it's just an enormous growth."

The cause of all this may lie in a complex interplay of environmental factors, including dirty, tightly sealed houses, tobacco smoke, air pollution and a burgeoning population of cats and dogs. According to another theory, the increase in allergy problems could be a paradoxical byproduct of modern medicine and elevated living standards, which may

continue to make the human immune system hypersensitive to allergic triggers. With more and more people suffering, scientists have stepped up efforts to figure out ways of preventing allergic reactions from happening. As a result, several promising new drugs are currently undergoing clinical trials—and even better ones could emerge in the future.

At the same time, doctors have seen an alarming growth in the number of people suffering from asthma—a chronic disease that is frequently after geriatrics (page 46). And new allergies are surfacing, including the often severe reaction to latex gloves and other latex products that affects thousands of health-care workers and their patients (page 48).

Among the most heavily afflicted are the thousands of Canadians who suffer from multiple allergies. Theresa Nicholson, 35, a second-year science student at the University of Western Ontario in London, suffers from severe asthma, hay fever, eczema, more than 90 food allergies (including eggs, nuts and most kinds of whole grains) and some drug allergies (penicillin, sulfa, Aspirin). She is also asthmatic and says that the nearly died once when an asthma drug put her into shock. "I got depressed because I've been so sick," says Nicholson, "but I don't stay depressed. I just try to keep busy with school. My social life isn't great. I feel like I'm always exhausted."

No one is quite sure why more and more Canadians are suffering from hay fever and other allergies

ing people—I have to tell them what to do for me as an emergency."

Compared with that, ordinary hay fever is a relatively mild ailment—but an infuriating and often-fatal inconvenience one just the same. The sneezes and sniffles, with hives sometimes thrown in for good measure, begin for some sufferers when molting snow in the spring exposes plant spores (pollen) and the moulds formed by rotting vegetation. Both pollen and mold particles that can waft into a victim's airways. Then, in May and June in most parts of Canada, come tree and grass pollens, and later in the summer, gardeners, ragweed and the other deciduous seeds that can blight the hay fever victim's life. Until she begins

receiving allergy shots a few years ago, says Andrea Kinsley, a Montreal psychologist, "I'd wake up with so much inflammation in my eyes that they'd be glued together—and at the same time I'd be sneezing, sneezing, sneezing."

It does not take much to trigger hay fever symptoms—a few microscopically small pollen grains can set off a complex, and often unpleasant, process. Human airways are lined with mucous-like cells, called mast cells, whose surfaces are covered with antibodies. The risk of the antibodies, known as immunoglobulin E (IgE), is to identify enemy invaders. When they do, the immune system declares a full alert and fires off a battery of chemical weapons—including histamine, which is responsible for itchy, watering eyes, runny nose and nasal-congested airways. Other chemicals released by IgE cause the inflamed eyes and airways that often occur late in the allergic attack.

All of the drastic steps taken by the immune system are designed to keep allergy-promoting substances, or allergens, across the body. But there is a price every shot of this in hay fever—as in all allergies—the body is reacting to an unnecessary threat. What causes the immune system to mount a massive response to an essentially harmless pollen? One theory is that part of the immune system was originally designed to react potentially deadly parasites. Because parasites are no longer a serious threat in the industrialized world, the immune system—over the lookout for enemy intruders—mistakenly reacts to harmless particles that are structurally similar to parasites. "It is," says Dr. David Copeland, an allergist who practices in Ottawa and Montreal, "a failure of discernment by the immune system."

That is scant comfort to the countless victims suffering through another allergy season. Those with severe hay fever can often conquer the problem by getting allergy shots. After doing skin tests to determine what allergens are involved, a physician injects gradually increasing doses of a protein extracted from the allergen. For reasons that scientists do not fully understand, this treatment persuades the immune system to stop becoming needlessly aroused when it detects an allergen. But the process is a lengthy one, sometimes requiring shots as often as once a week—and taking up to three years to provide relief.

Many hay fever sufferers skip the shots and make do instead with a variety of nasal sprays, decongestants and antihistamines—drugs that block the action of histamine. Antihistamines often perform effectively—for a while. Then, after a few days, the immune system learns to circumvent the drug. Among the victims to search for a new preparation are Susan Barrows, 33, of Andrew Township, a 31-year-old Ottawa dentist specialist, and a 31-year-old Ottawa dentist specialist, prior to get along without drugs. "When the approved course out, I get horrendous hay fever with a runny nose, headaches and constant sneezing," says Townsend. "It's a real pain, but I don't usually take drugs. I'm used to it now. I carry lots of Kleenex."

Better allergy shots may be on the way. One promising approach was developed by Immunologic Pharmaceuticals Corp. in Waltham, Mass. Company researchers found that a drug based on part of the protein that triggers an allergic attack can be used to limit its severity. The action



of the protein in question is called a peptide. When a boy feverishly takes a drug containing, for example, a specially engineered synthetic form of rapped peptide, the drug sharply reduces that person's reaction to the allergen. Clinical trials are currently under way to test two drugs—designed to deal with rapped and cat allergies—based on the Immunology Research Offices at Lund, who based Martin Merrill Dow Canada, which plans to market the drugs, said that the new medications could be on the market within the next few years. In another approach, Genentech Inc. of South San Francisco is conducting early-stage trials of a genetically engineered IgE antibody that would block the disclosure of histamine in people suffering from a number of allergic conditions, including asthma, allergic rhinitis and anaphylaxis.

Many of the estimated 50,000 Canadians who have anaphylaxis carry something far more potent—a pocket-sized syringe that they can use to inject themselves with adrenaline when exposed to a shock-inducing allergen. It can happen all too easily—for some who are anaphylactic, a mere whiff of peanut butter or a sip of milk can do it. So can some kinds of seafood, certain drugs and wasp or bee stings. About eight per cent of Canadian children under 16, and about two per cent of adults, have food allergies—and many of them are anaphylactic.

In anaphylaxis, the immune system's response is massive—and potentially catastrophic. In extreme cases, the immune system floods the body with chemicals that cause rashes and sometimes become poisonous. Blood pressure plummets, the voice goes into a creak and on even die—unless adrenaline is injected soon enough to halt the process. Increasingly, peanuts (which, confusingly, are not nuts but members of the bean and pea family) are emerging as one of the principal causes of anaphylactic shock. The allergy is indignantly common among children—as estimated one per cent of Canadian youngsters meet allergy to peanuts. These flies can be hazardous, because peanuts are available in so many forms—either in the shell, or cooking oil and in the peanut butter sandwich that are a lunch staple for schoolchildren, in breakfast cereals, cookies, candies and chocolate bars.

Eight-year-old Laura Bryant of Vancouver knows what will

happen if she touches anything containing peanuts. "Her tongue and throat begin to swell," says Laura's mother, Lily Bryant. "She starts vomiting and gets hives all over." Then breathing problems can develop and, if she doesn't get to a hospital fast, she could go into anaphylactic shock. "This has not happened yet," adds Bryant, "but we have to be prepared for any thing." Lily Bryant thinks that the night have been responsible for causing her daughter's peanut allergy because when she was pregnant with Laura, she recalls, "I ate peanut butter on toast just about every day for five months."

There could be a connection. During the past decade, scientists have vividly enlarged their understanding of the intricate biological mechanisms involved in allergies. They have learned that the immune system is highly sensitive in the early years of life—and that many allergies develop as the child is exposed to potential allergens for the first time. Some scientists speculate that food eaten by pregnant women could indeed lead to the development of allergies in their unborn child, though Dr. Peter Vadas, a Toronto immunologist, notes that the theory is so far unproven. Meanwhile, experts strongly endorse the growing tendency among Canadian mothers to breastfeed for six months or longer, thus delaying their child's exposure to other foods. And they urge

'A century ago, allergies like hay fever were almost unknown—the growth has been enormous

breastfeeding women to avoid peanuts, fish and other foods that can cause allergic reactions in babies. "After half a year," says Susan Daigle, executive director of the Toronto-based Allergy/Anaphylaxis Information Association, "a baby's system is too low vulnerable."

Researchers also know that allergies run in families. If one parent has an allergy, a child stands a 50-percent chance of being allergic as well. If both parents have allergies, the odds shoot up to 80 per cent. A specific allergy develops through a process called sensitization when the immune system for the first time identifies a foreign body as an enemy, calls promptly to begin producing IgE antibodies dedicated to building that allergy. Each time the allergen is encountered, the number of antibodies increases. That explains why an individual's first experience with, say, rapped or peanuts, may produce a mild reaction—which becomes more pronounced with each subsequent encounter. A central question remains: "The key is," says Dr. Paul O'Hanlon, a professor of medicine at McMaster University in Hamilton, "is why someone is allergic to cats but not to household dust?"

Many researchers think that some kind of adverse catalyst, or trigger, is needed to "turn on" an allergy. Though there is no hard evidence yet, some researchers think that prenatal cigarette smoking—a truly prime suspect in the increase of asthma—may play just such a role in respiratory allergies. A growing number of studies as well have pointed to a link between air pollution and allergies. In a 1991



It only takes a few tiny pollen grains to set off a complex and unpleasant process

Hay fever sufferer Walter has allergies to dust and pollen of many kinds

study, Dr. Nor Zinnat, a University of Toronto professor of medicine, reported that people with allergy-related asthma showed an increased sensitivity to rapped and grain pollen that they were exposed to at the same time to low levels of ozone—a component of urban smog that is produced when sunlight alters atmospheric chemical reactions.

From antibodies and other sources.

According to a new wall mounting theory, high

ly to allergy-type responses, including asthma."

Though researchers around the world are starting to zero in on the biochemical causes of allergies, few hold out hope of a quick cure. Currently, scientists in Canada and other countries are focusing their attention on a family of hormone-like chemicals called cytokines that regulate certain cell functions. The cytokine interleukin-4, for example, is responsible for ordering cells to produce IgE antibodies. Clearly, if allergies might be brought under control, or even cured, it is a way could be found to prevent interleukin-4 from functioning. "There is a lot of exciting work going on in this area," says Dr. Allan Becker, an associate professor of immunology at the University of Manitoba. "But the trouble in this allergy line is open up a new area of investigation, it turns out that it's a lot more complicated than you thought."

Wellesley Hospital's Berger is following up a similarly promising lead that could also take years to produce results. Last August, Berger identified a most-of-the-immune-system, dubbed CD-4, that plays a vital role in the immune system's communication. If CD-4 could be "switched off," then the most cells would not receive the signal that peroxides them to take defensive action. "We're working to try to understand how these things work," says Berger. "But it will be a long process—this isn't going to lead to new treatments in the next few years."

Berger has pressing personal reasons for hoping that better allergy treatments turn up soon. He is allergic to dogs. "I can walk into a room with a dog in it," says Berger, "but within minutes I have itchy eyes, a runny nose, sneezing and sneezing. It's awful, and I like dogs." Peter Neo, a Montreal systems analyst who suffers from hay fever, would also welcome some relief—he reads scientific publications because they make him feel cozy. As it is, he says, the arrival of warmer weather means that "I wake up every morning and sneeze for about 15 minutes. It's pretty embarrassing. It can be embarrassing in public. It's always being sneezing and sniffing and looking." For now, as scientists puzzle over the mysterious upsurge in allergies, sneezing and sniffing will continue to be among the loudest sounds of summer. □



Lily and Laura Bryant: a mother and a daughter with allergies. Photo: Michael S. Green

WHEEZING AND WORRYING

BY MARK NICHOLS

For Jennifer Moore was 43 when asthma invaded her life. She was living in Montreal, where a doctor was treating her for her lover's leukemia on her knee asthma in the spring and fall. "And then one day," recalls Moore, now 46 and a resident of North Bay, Ont., "I just got one heck of an asthma attack. I've been having them ever since." Moore says that asthma now affects her whole life. "I have to watch when I go," she says. "I have to stay away from events because of the risk of picking up my bags, which would make my asthma worse. I have to watch out for fellow goldenretrievers in the summer and vacuum the house all the time to keep down the dust. Even with medication, my asthma is hard to control. Sometimes I can't sleep because of my coughing and wheezing. And some days, the weather will be just beautiful—but I can't even open the window because of what might come in. Asthma is a very big adjustment—it takes your whole life around."

Over the past 25 years, asthma—a constriction of the airways causing coughing, wheezing and shortness of breath—has been disrupting more and more lives, around the world and in all age groups. An estimated 17 million Canadians, or about 30 percent of the population, have the disease, up from about two per cent 20 years ago. And the fatality rate is rising among Canadians aged between 10 and 34. Deaths from asthma have more than doubled since the early 1980s, in 1994, the affliction claimed about 580 Canadian lives. "What we have," says Dr. Malcolm Sears, a professor of medicine at McMaster University in Hamilton, "is an illness that used to be considered a relatively mild disease—and now it's killing people."

Experts are not sure why more people are suffering, and sometimes dying, from asthma's symptoms. Some scientists believe that the children of mothers who smoke are at greater risk of developing asthma—and surveys show that more young asthmatics are smoking. Other experts point to the prevalence of allergen-filled homes, which, while making life better, also seal in asthma-causing dust. And a growing number of experts think that some asthma victims die simply because their family doctors lack an adequate understanding of the illness and do not teach patients how to control it. Moreover, some researchers maintain that many asthmatics are putting themselves at risk through overuse of a family of adrenaline-like drugs called beta-agonists. The drugs are highly effective at battling wheezing attacks, but some researchers are convinced that if used too often, beta-agonists can actually pave the way for more serious attacks as patients develop a drug tolerance. "People tend to go far what gives them quick relief," says Sears. "Without realizing that they may actually be aggravating their condition."

The proof is in that knowledge about asthma—and asthma medications—has improved to the point where many victims can live nearly normal lives. There are shining examples in the sports world: Susan Auch,

Asthma affects growing numbers of people



the 24-year-old speed skater from Winnipeg, and Brent Cricklow, the 26-year-old kayakist from Nipigon, Ont., both suffer from asthma and have

both won a clutch of medals at international competitions. "I got into skating," says Auch, "because my doctor convinced me to do sports—he thought that having strong lungs would help my asthma. And it has."

For others, bouts of wheezing can make life an ordeal. It is particularly true for children, a segment of the population in which asthma is growing rapidly. According to the Toronto-based Asthma Society of Canada, one in five Canadian children now suffers from asthma—a substantial increase over a generation ago. Nine-year-old Jon Crowder is asthmatic, and some of his worst suffering occurred when the Crawford family of northern British Columbia moved just 110 km southwest, from New Hazelton to Terrace, two years ago. When he first encountered the kinds of trees and grasses that grow around Terrace, recalls Jon's mother Sharon Crowder, he experienced a bad



Taking asthma medication, one in five Canadian kids is now afflicted with the disease.

attack at a time when she and her husband had not yet learned how to cope with his illness. "It was scary," she recalls. "He would cough for about five minutes and then try to take a deep breath—he couldn't. He'd look at me, his eyes saying, 'Aren't you going to help me?' And there was nothing we could do."

In about 60 per cent of cases, asthma is genetic in origin, that means that if parents or grandparents are asthmatic, their children likely will be, too. About 60 per cent of asthmatics suffer from allergies, which trigger asthma attacks. In nonallergic asthmatics, attacks can be brought on by cold air or exercise. Asthma usually appears in childhood, but it can strike adults who have never before had asthma symptoms. And while children sometimes "outgrow" the asthma of their early years, the affliction can return in later life.

For the allergic asthmatic, the enemy may be everywhere: The substances that can trigger attacks include house dust, tobacco smoke, diesel fumes and other kinds of air pollution, tree and other plant pollen, perfumes, paints, chemicals, cats, dogs and other foods and food preservatives and household pests—especially cats. "Cats," says Dr. Pierre Ernst, a Montreal respirologist, "are a menace to society." An

estimated 16 per cent of all asthma may be related to the victim's workplace, where industrial chemicals, wood dust or varnishes can trigger attacks.

When an asthmatic starts coughing for breath, it is because the airways leading to the lungs have suddenly narrowed. The process begins when antibodies on the inside walls and throat cells decide that they have spotted an enemy intruder. The body's immune system responds by releasing chemicals that tighten the airways to keep the intruder out. Some of the chemicals also work slowly by causing a spasm in the airway muscles, but other immune system chemicals can take up to six hours to produce what doctors call a late-phase inflammatory response in the airways—and a second attack, long after the first one has passed.

Understanding that chain of events has enabled researchers to develop certain asthma drugs. Most potent are the so-called bronchodilators, many of them involving beta-agonists, which can relieve an attack while it is happening, and anti-inflammatory medications, including powerful synthetic corticosteroids, which can help to prevent the next one.

Early groups of drugs carry some health risks. The beta-agonists include salbutamol (sold under the brand name Ventolin), isoproterenol (Berotec) and terbutaline sulphate (Bricanyl). During the mid-1980s, Malcolm Sears, a medical researcher in Des Moines, Iowa, studied what happened when asthma appeared to be getting more serious, called out a study involving 34 asthma patients who used beta-agonists four times a day—and found that over a six-month period, asthma in a majority of the patients actually got worse.

Subsequently, researchers at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Saskatoon discovered findings that suggested why overuse of beta-agonists could cause problems. In a 1992-1993 study, the researchers found that when 13 mildly asthmatic patients were treated with an inhaled beta-agonist for two weeks, their sensitivity to allergens increased—and, as the tolerance tolerance grew, the drug became less capable of stopping constricted airways. As a result, the patients' asthma became worse. What the findings showed, says Dr. Don Cookcroft, the University of Saskatchewan respirologist who headed the study, "is that the way we have been treating asthma may have something to do with the increasing number of hospital admissions—and deaths—triggered on by asthma." Despite the concerns about beta-agonists, no one is suggesting that they should be taken all the time—only that they should be used sparingly. "Beta-agonists are supergood at what they do," says Cookcroft. "They are life-saving drugs. But there is reason to think that they should be used as little as possible." According to Stuart Wilson, a spokesman for Glaxo Canada Inc., which makes Ventolin, "beta-agonists are the best available means for managing acute asthma attacks. But they are not the only treatment for asthma, and they should not be used as though they were."

Many physicians urge their patients to keep beta-agonists in reserve and rely on anti-inflammatory drugs, such as inhaled-corticosteroid inhalers, that there are health risks associated with steroids, as well being used or taken as tablets, steroids such as the widely used prednisone can, after years of use, cause a variety of side-effects, including weight gain, muscle wasting, high blood pressure and osteoporosis.

Mighty mites

Dust mites are so small they are invisible to the naked eye. But they can create serious problems for asthmatics. *Demodex phagocytophagocytus* (greatly magnified, above), as the creature is formally named, lives in mattresses, pillows, sofas and carpets, where it thrives on the particles of dead skin shed by humans. Dust mites do not bite or transmit disease, but their droppings contain a potent allergen and, if inhaled by an asthmatic, can trigger an attack of wheezing. Experts advise asthmatics to permanently enclose mattresses, box springs and pillows in plastic bags to deprive the dust mites of food. Unless such precautions are taken, the average Canadian bed may play host to as many as two million dust mites.

They can also slow growth in children. For these reasons, many doctors advise, particularly for patients with severe asthma, to treat mild cases with inhaled steroids, which have fewer side effects. Dorothy Barlett, a Toronto, Ont., member of three groups that also worried about her 10-year-old son, Jon, and the history of medications—including steroids—needed to control his asthma. "He has been taking all three powerful medications for years," she says. "But we don't really know what the long-term effects may be."

Meanwhile, scientists are developing a new family of antiinflammatory drugs that could ward off allergy inflammation without causing any of the side-effects associated with steroids. Dr. Paul O'Byrne, a clinical researcher at McMaster University, says that his new drugs will help asthmatics by blocking the action of leukotrienes—mediators released by the body's immune system that are partly responsible for the inflammation that can cause one asthma attack to follow three or four hours after another. The new approach, says O'Byrne, who hopes to develop it, should be especially useful in people with asthma induced by exercise, because when hyperventilation can cause the release of leukotrienes—and a bout of wheezing. Several major drug companies have developed leukotriene-based asthma drugs, which could start coming on the market during the next year or so.

In their search for the underlying factors behind the asthma epidemic, most researchers—seriously—have so far ridden on a major side for one air pollution. Even though urban smog, diesel fumes and industrial emissions can trigger wheezing attacks, there is little evidence to suggest that it is a major factor in the spread of asthma. Still, experts say that air pollution can sometimes trigger the onset of asthma in people who are genetically predisposed



Chapman (right) treating a patient working now that asthma victims are better informed

to get the disease. And airborne chemicals can cause asthma in people who have asthma. Last week, Cynthia Morton, a 27-year-old Saint John, N.B., resident, who campaigned against air pollution in the city, died after a severe asthma attack. A fellow protester, Judy LeBlanc, blamed Morton's death and a rash of asthma attacks in the city, on emissions from the city's living oil refinery. "Air pollution is not the cause of our problems," said LeBlanc. But it puts us in a position where the worse conditions can be fatal.

In indoor air pollution may play a larger role in the spread of asthma, since the increase in allergy cases that began during the late 1970s happened housewives in sell their houses more often to rent or to sell. The popularity of multi-unit apartment and house buildings has played a role in creating a welcoming environment for some of asthma's worst enemies—dust mites, the tiny round like creatures whose droppings are a powerful asthma allergen. The clutter (dust mites and dust) of house hold items, especially in cities, may also be a potent allergen. "There is a lot of evidence that children exposed to secondhand smoke experienced more severe asthma attacks than those who are not. Other researchers have found evidence suggesting that the children of mothers who smoke tend to be more likely to develop asthma—though it is not clear why. And young women are the only group whose asthma is increasing," says Dr. Kenneth Chapman, director of the Asthma Centre at The Toronto Hospital. "It seems so obvious—there must be a connection."

Many experts believe that one of the keys to getting the asthma epidemic under control, and reducing the death toll, is better education—of asthmatics and their doctors. "What we have here," Chapman says, "is a potential for fatal disease for which some patients are not being given adequate information." To remedy that, Chapman helped set up the new Canadian Network for Asthma Care. The aim of the organization, to make sure that both doctors and their patients are better informed about asthma and its treatment—and to reduce the suffering and deaths wrought by a sometimes costly misdiagnosis.

MARK NICHOLS with SHARON DOYLE
DARTMOUTH in Toronto

HAND-IN-GLOVE DISEASE

...the symptoms were mild at first. When Shelley Morton started working as a dental assistant in Saint John, N.B., three years ago, she noticed that her hands would break out in an itchy red rash whenever she wore latex gloves. The problem seemed to disappear when she switched from natural latex gloves—made from the sap of the rubber tree—to synthetic ones. "I thought that was the end of it," says the 38-year-old Morton. She did not realize that she was still inhaling the fine particles of latex that filled into the air every time a workpiece or snapped on latex gloves. By March, 2004, she recalls, "I had rashes everywhere and I was having asthma attacks." When tests showed that Morton was allergic to latex, her doctor advised her to quit. She held on until June, when she could no longer ignore his warning. "One day, I was having so many problems, I had to walk out," says Morton. "My throat tightened, my lips swelled and I felt dizzy. I nearly went into shock."

More than a decade ago, few doctors had heard of latex allergy, and none would have suggested that it could cause anaphylaxis, the life-threatening allergic reaction that Morton experienced. Natural latex has been used in everything from balloons, condoms and thousands of other familiar products for more than 50 years with no hint of a problem. But Canadian doctors sounded the alarm about the serious new allergy at an international medical conference in 1988, when they reported on two cases, an Ottawa, Ont., rubber-plast worker who experienced the first known instance of latex-induced asthma, and an Annapolis, Ont., operating room nurse who had a severe allergic reaction to the substance. Soon, an outbreak in 17 U.S. states. Now, it is better understood, the allergy, which occurs to develop after prolonged exposure to latex. "It's a major health problem," says Calgary allergist Dr. David Gross. "And it's getting worse as areas where nothing is being done about it."

Condom users are especially vulnerable, including rubber industry workers, people who have had frequent surgery and children with spina bifida—a congenital disorder that requires extensive treatment involving latex medical equipment. During the 1990s, it was health-care workers who routinely wear latex gloves as a precaution against such latex viruses as HIV. According to a latex rubber in the U.S., the U.S. and the Canadian Latex Allergy Association, "many medical and



Cynthia Morton with non-latex gloves: a major health problem that some say is getting worse

An allergy to latex can trigger a range of ailments

dental professionals reach a dangerous level of sensitivity before they recognize they have a problem." Why the oddsles worldwide increase in allergies to latex? So far, there is no clear answer. Many researchers believe that the epidemic parallels the introduction of synthetic materials against AIDS in the mid-1980s. "Health care workers now wear latex gloves eight hours a day," says Dr. Gordon Swanson, Toronto-based president of the Canadian Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, who says that the constant contact causes the allergy to develop. "The powder comes off the gloves," he explains, "and they inhale latex and sensitize themselves."

Some experts blame the surge in allergy on a decline in the quality of latex gloves. Natural latex is harvested by hand from *Morone brasiliensis*, a rubber plant that grows in southeast Asia and Brazil. The milky latex that oozes out at the trunk of the tall, softwood tree contains thousands of chemicals, but only a fraction of its proteins cause allergies. The offending proteins can be removed from the surface of latex products by repeated washings in hot water (although some remain within the material), according to Bradley Gray, a sleep physician at Windsor, an Allstate-based glove manufacturer. But he and other experts believe that, in the rush to fill the soaring demand for latex gloves in the late 1980s, some new businesses skipped fast and produced gloves that contained high

levels of proteins, inadvertently triggering all types of "Composites," says Paul, "though that all they had to do was put up some tin, cherry, nut the product and get it."

Now, some health professionals, including Morton, are saying the price. There is only one way to treat a latex allergy—avoidance. But some employers are unwilling or unable to ask all employees to stop using latex gloves for the sake of a few sensitive individuals. "The people I worked with were not so understanding of it," says Morton about her own colleagues who refused to give up the comfortable fit and dexterity of latex. The alternative—synthetic gloves—can also be more expensive. "There is a tendency to look strictly at the cost of the glove," says Gross. "But the cost of having employees with a health problem is significant."

The Calgary specialist has sent a number of patients through the Workers' Compensation Board system. But in some provinces, the WCB and other insurers do not always recognize latex allergy. "I've been getting the runaround from the WCB," says Karen Martynow, a former Red Cross lab technician in Vancouver, who had to leave work and study last year after her latex allergy nearly caused her to go into shock. "Once they get this out of women," she says, "they are going to be paying for a lot of people to retest their blood." Meanwhile, 29-year-old Martynow is studying to become a therapist, and the latex industry is scrambling to produce a safe and practical alternative to the gloves that ended her medical career.

SHARON DOYLE DARTMOUTH

Island of asthma

Many asthma experts think that better treatments—and even a cure—will emerge when researchers gain a clearer understanding of the genetic factors responsible for perhaps 10 per cent of all asthma cases. As a result, scientists around the world are searching for asthma-related genes. At the University of Toronto, a research team set up three years ago focused to study populations with a high incidence of asthma. The problem was known to begin in 1950, when a U.C. medical professor who specialized in pulmonary disorders, remembered reading about the tiny island of Tristan da Cunha, a British possession in the south Atlantic about 3,000 miles west of Cape Town, South Africa. The island has a population of about 300 that is distinguished by its low-living ways, its peculiar version of early 19th-century English—and its fact that about half its residents are asthmatic. "It seemed," says Zemel, "the ideal place to start."

The trouble, actually, was that the island is a closed community. No part of Zemel's proposed study. But after an exchange of faxes, messages, and in other efforts, including annual and electronic equipment, the island finally agreed to

October, 1993, Zemel and technician Patricia McClain took a ship to the island from South Africa (Tristan has no airport) and spent the next month taking blood samples from every resident over 7. At the same time, Zemel and McClain visited the family histories of the islanders. The task was simplified by the fact that all of Tristan's inhabitants are the descendants of a Scottish sailor named William Gless, who settled there with his wife in 1817, and a handful of British, Indian and American sailors, some of whom subsequently married into the Gless family.

Since his visit to Tristan, Zemel has collected data on highly asthmatic populations in other parts of the world, including the Brecken ridge in Idaho and the Chinese island of Nantian, about 150 miles southwest of Shanghai. Meanwhile, a laboratory at La Jolla, Calif., has begun processing the genetic material collected from the Tristan da Cunha blood samples. Zemel says that when the laboratory identifies the genetic source of the islanders' asthma, he plans to return to Tristan to throw a big party. We hope that will be soon.

M.M.

The two faces of Karla Homolka

Was she, as the Crown alleges, another of Bernardo's victims—or was she a cold and calculating predator?

There's homemade videotape in full of adolescent smiles and Crown cheer. A blond and beaming Karla Homolka, then 20, gambles with her sisters, Lori 19 and Tammy, 15, and teases her parents, Karrel and Dorothy, who are reluctant to pose for the camera. At one point, Karla says playfully "I'm Christmas Eve." These scenes were recorded by Paul Bernardo, Homolka's tacit husband, on the evening of Dec. 23, 1990, at the Homolka family home in St. Catharines, Ont. A few hours later, Homolka and Bernardo appeared in another home-made video—this time as they raped Homolka's drugged and unconscious sister Tammy in the basement recreation room while the rest of the family slept upstairs. Last week, both video tapes were shown in the downtown Toronto



Karla Homolka (above left), sister Lori, Karrel, Lori and Dorothy Homolka (top right); the battered Homolka (right); the gut reaction was revelation

to courtroom, where Bernardo is on trial for the first-degree murder of two adolescent girls. But while the jury will decide the fate of Bernardo, the public was left in greater question that lingered even after Homolka's own trial nearly two years ago: was Karla Homolka as the defense wills it, a cold, calculating predator—or was she, as the prosecution has alleged, just another of Bernardo's victims?

The graphic, deeply disturbing videos presented last week provoked fans, but not from a sinister, if in the attack on Homolka, who seems like either disliking or her own words, Homolka appears to be a reluctant participant, calling it "I'm—no disgusting" when Bernardo forces her to have and sex with her sister. But on other tapes, while having consensual sex with Bernardo, she seems a willing—even enthusiastic—participant in her father's husband's advances. She declares that she "loved" it when he had sex with Tammy, gives her dead sister's clothes for Bernardo's anniversary—and suggests that they should offer young virgins for the king.

For all the unflinching fascination with the Homolka tragedy, the gut reaction to the Bernardo tapes was overwhelming revulsion. Early last week, Justice Patrick LeSage, who is presiding over the trial, ruled that only the accused, the jury and court officials could see tapes that depict the physical and sexual assault on 14-year-old Leslie Mahaly and 15-year-old Kimbra Franch, the two girls Bernardo is accused of kidnapping and murdering. But he allowed the public and media to hear the audio portions of the tapes. The ruling also applied to tapes showing the attacks on Tammy and on an unnamed fourth young victim—known as Jane Doe, who survived her ordeal and is expected to testify later in the trial, possibly with her sister's consent.

LeSage's ruling allowing the public to hear the tapes angered members of the French and Mahaly families, who have sat in the court room almost daily. They quickly applied to the Supreme Court of

Canada for permission to appeal LeSage's decision, but were turned down. They also showed their displeasure by walking out of court along with several supporters, on the afternoon when Crown lawyer's played the 40-minute tape depicting the rape of Tammy Homolka. And they stayed out of the courtroom for almost an entire day when the Crown presented two long, sexually explicit segments involving only Bernardo and Homolka, who is now serving concurrent 12-year prison sentences after being convicted in July 1993 of manslaughter in the deaths of Mahaly and Franch.

Those tapes were shown on two large TV screens to the public, because none of the teenage victims appear in them. They contained little dialogue during scenes in which Homolka cheerfully performs oral sex on Bernardo, who appears bored and passive. In the second, taped in the girl's parents' bedrooms, they perform sexual acts on Tammy's victim bed, and on a nearby lawn and rug dolls. Bernardo holds up the girl's Grade 9 school photo in front of the window's curtains, and says "There's a little virgin...there's Tammy! You Homolka."

The tapes shown on June 1 and lasting nearly 45 minutes, were played twice in their entirety to allow the jury to absorb both the images and the dialogue. They had a devastating effect on almost everyone in the room: Bernardo's lawyers, John Kenna and Tony Bryant, walked on newspaper-covered pavers rather than walk. Initially, many spectators stared at the floor or shook their heads in disbelief. By the end of



the afternoon, the public galleries were nearly empty. "I can't understand how people can be that way," spectator Cindy Deinger, a 25-year-old, occasionally college student, said outside. "This selfish, perverse gross."

The following morning, the Crown played a series of even more chilling tapes that depicted the June 15, 1990, confinement and rape of Leslie Mahaly—whose dismembered body was later found encased in concrete in a nearby lake. While only the jury and court officials saw the images, Bernardo's voice was perfectly audible in the public gallery at several points. And among those listening was the victim's mother, Debra Mahaly, who made a startling entrance, accompanied by two victim's rights advocates, while the Crown was playing a 20-minute tape. As music by pop performer David Bowie and summer-themed Bob Marley plays in the background, Bernardo and Homolka perform numerous sex acts with the teenagers, whose screams shudder and sobriety. At one point, Bernardo says

"You're doing a good job, Leslie, a damned good job." Then, he adds: "The next two hours are going to determine what I do in my youth. Right now, you're average perfect." As he learned, Mahaly's mother sat absolutely rigid, her right fist clenched and pressed against her chest, and her face locked in utter agony. When she stood up to leave, she staggered and almost fell.

Later, on another segment of the tape, the sexual ecstasies Mahaly cries out in pain and begs Bernardo to stop in the Crown description of the scene, he is sodomizing her while her hands are bound with tape. Mahaly says that her husband seems to be sleeping. There was a horrifying prospect, Crown attorney Ray Houlahan said in his opening statement, because Mahaly felt that if Bernardo believed she could identify him, he would kill her.

As Houlahan portrayed, Mahaly was not the only one frightened of Bernardo. He is trying to show the jury that Homolka perceived something in her ex-husband's crimes because she was satisfied of his physical and mental abuse. Prior to the showing of the tapes, he called Homolka's mother, Dorothy, and her sister, Lori, both of whom testified about the relationship between Karla and Bernardo. They said that they had observed an escalating pattern of abuse, culminating in a suicide attempt in early January, 1993, that ended the relationship. A photograph taken after the incident—entered into evidence and later published by The Toronto Star despite the fact that it was not officially released to the media—shows Karla with eyes so blackened that, as her mother put it, she resembled a "racoon."

But the family's testimony left several holes in the story. It left the cross-examinations by Rose, mother and daughter, contended that Bernardo's abuse of Karla occurred only in the last six months of the relationship, after the murders of Mahaly and Franch. Until then, they acknowledged, Homolka and Bernardo appeared to be a happy, loving couple. They also agreed with Rose that, shortly after the French murder, something happened between Homolka and Bernardo that destroyed their marriage. But they and they have no idea what it was. That is, at least, the prosecution's case. In this case, questions Homolka will undoubtedly be called upon to address when she testifies as the prosecution's star witness—presumably in late June or early July. Perhaps then the larger riddle of Karla Homolka—crime or coerced—will finally be answered.

DAVID JENSH

'BECAUSE I WANT YOU TO BE HAPPY'

The death of 15-year-old Tammy Homolka who showed on her own name on Dec. 23, 1990, was racial incident. But the Crown alleges that she died after Paul Bernardo and sister Karla Homolka sexually abused her with sleeping pills—and sexually assaulted her. In early 1991, while living in the basement of the woman's family home in St. Catharines, Ont., Bernardo and Homolka discussed the death in a videotaped conversation. Failed attempts

Bernardo: Referring to the videotaped sexual assault of Tammy. Do you see watching that?
Homolka: I loved watching it.
Bernardo: How did you love it?
Homolka: I felt good. I felt happy. It's my mission in life to make you feel good.

Bernardo: What did I teach you?
Homolka: Well, we like to be girls.
Bernardo: What age?
Homolka: Thirteen.
Bernardo: Why?
Homolka: Cause it'll make you happy.
Bernardo: But why 13?
Homolka: That's a good age. I guess. They'll still be virgins.
Bernardo: So what are you saying?
Homolka: I'm saying I think you should take their virginity. They're our children and I think you should make their own even more.
Bernardo: I think you're right. You're absolutely right. Good idea. Is it because Tammy's gone?
Homolka: It's the closest thing we can get. We did something a few days ago. We used a little

get down here in my room. [The court has so far heard no further evidence on this incident.] You want out and you know how. Get her brought back to the house, brought her downstairs. I was shocked.
Bernardo: I know that. I let you do that because I love you. Because you're the king, I want you to do it again.
Homolka: When?
Bernardo: The summer because the winter is too hard. If you want to do it 50 times more we can do it 50 times more. Every weekend we can do it every weekend, I want you to love you. Because you're the king. Because you deserve it.
Bernardo: Will you help me get the virgin?
Homolka: I'll go to the car with you if you want. Or I'll stay here and I'll clean up afterwards, like I did on Sunday. I'll do everything I can. I want you to be happy. Cause you're the king.

Victory at the Brickyard

At the Indy 500, Villeneuve sped to racing's top ranks



The champion, enthusiasts and Formula One novices

Ta Bell Brick, the fact that a Canadian won this year's Indianapolis 500 comes as no surprise at all. A racing legend in the mid-1970s, Toronto-born Brick captured the 1973 Canadian championship, then went on to win again in 1974 and 1975. Among his contemporaries were such as Formula drivers Bobby Rahal and Kelso Rosberg—and a dashing, daring Quebecer named Gilles Villeneuve. "He was certainly one of the best drivers or test drivers ever," says Brick, 58, who now manages a ferry dealership in downtown Toronto. "He could have won the Indy 500 hands down. After Gilles came on the scene, it was a hard to believe that a Canadian could win anything." Villeneuve, of course, went on to international Formula One competition, where he met a tragic death in 1995 at the Belgian Grand Prix. But finally, on May 28, the late driver's 35-year-old son, Jacques, became the first Canadian to capture the Indianapolis 500, North America's auto racing's most prestigious title. It was said the younger Villeneuve, "like winning the Olympics."

The Indy 500 is indeed the granddaddy of motor sports. Now 79 years old, it attracts more than 900,000 fans every year to the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, where crashes, carous and photo finishes are the annual fare. But this year's race marked something different. The 61.5-million visit by Villeneuve, who was born in Portneuf, Quebec, was the first time a driver from between Montreal and Indianapolis, has firmly established Canadian as the top ranks of a sport long dominated by Americans and Europeans.

Hard to believe? There are three main open-wheel—as opposed to stock-car—contests in North America, roughly equivalent to two wide-A baseball leagues and a major league. At the Americas level is the Player's IRL (Triple-A Atlantic Championship)—David Engleman, 38, of Toronto, is the twelve-time defending champion. The other major league is the PPG IndyCar Series (Triple-A Major League B.C.). This year, with four wins in four starts and at the apex of the racing pyramid is the PPG Indy Car

World Series, a 17-race journey where cars push 240 km/h. After his Indy 500 win, Villeneuve led the IndyCar standings.

It is telling, perhaps, that at the Indy 500—the tightest—and most controversial—competition was between two Canadians. For much of the race, Toronto-born Scott Goodyear led the pack, but with only nine laps to go in the 200-lap race, Goodyear made a costly gaffe. Under a caution flag, during which drivers must maintain their position, he passed the pace car—an attraction for which he was penalized two laps. As a result, Villeneuve, who had been penalized for a similar infraction at lap 65 but managed to come back to second place, inherited the lead and cruised to victory.

In any way, it is remarkable that Canadians make it up major league auto racing at all, let alone win the big races. IndyCar automobiles cost well over \$500,000, and total team costs, including tires, spare parts and personnel, can reach \$10 million a year. That raises the driver's ability to secure a corporate sponsor critical. And it puts Canadian at a disadvantage, since Canada has nowhere near the racing culture the United States does. Before being sponsored by Player's IRL—along with Mahan, one of two major Canadian sponsors—Indy Lights prodigy Moore says he struggled to get by for two seasons. Now, however, he says the sponsorship "lets us go out there knowing that if crash or anything goes wrong, we're going to be there for the next race."

Villeneuve has almost certainly left racing worries in the dust. Business manager Craig Pollock says that product endorsement of his line nearly quadrupled since the Indy 500. "Jacques could be a walking billboard today, if he wanted," said Pollock. The Indianapolis victory, however, has also led to media speculation that Villeneuve will soon make the jump to the more lucrative Formula One circuit. Pollock, noting it is Villeneuve's corner with Player's IRL does not expect until Sept. 15, acknowledged that there is "serious interest" from several Formula One teams—although one report that the driver has turned down an offer from Ferrari is "totally unsubstantiated."

If he does go to Formula One—as his father did—then comparisons between the two drivers are likely to come fast and furious. But to racing aficionados, father and son have little in common. "It's telling, perhaps, that at the Indy 500—the tightest—and most controversial—competition was between two Canadians. For much of the race, Toronto-born Scott Goodyear led the pack, but with only nine laps to go in the 200-lap race, Goodyear made a costly gaffe. Under a caution flag, during which drivers must maintain their position, he passed the pace car—an attraction for which he was penalized two laps. As a result, Villeneuve, who had been penalized for a similar infraction at lap 65 but managed to come back to second place, inherited the lead and cruised to victory."

JOE CHODURA

The lonely bull

A Quebecer takes on Ottawa over mad cow disease

Gandon Kubi forges in his refrigerator for something to feed his 2,000-lb beast. Rearing with a head at cabbage, he marches out into the spring sunshine of Quebec's Eastern Townships and greets his quarantined bull—Gile Beattie. To look at Gile, one would never suspect that this colorful horse may have mad cow disease, an intractable neurological disorder. Appearance Canada officials want the shaggy beast killed. And while a federal court judge has ruled against them, their appeal of that decision was to be heard in federal court in Montreal on June 7 and 8. Kubi, 76, who runs Swiss Farms in Gaspereville, about 120 km east of Montreal, is incensed. "My objective," he says, "is to prove it so that Agriculture Canada could absorb its liability."

Mad cow disease—or bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE)—has killed more than 150,000 cattle in Britain since 1986 and continues to kill 400 a week. Canada responded by banning cattle imports from Britain in 1990 to protect its cattle-export market, worth \$1.72 billion last year. But in late November, 1993, an Alberta rancher sent Red Deer state a cow after suspecting it had a broken leg. Because the animal had been imported from Britain in 1987, federal veterinarians dissected its brain, looking for



Kubi and Gile Beattie charging ahead of authority

BSE. The verdict: North America's lone mad cow case to date. The British epidemic was caused by cattle feed made—beginning in the winter of 1980—150,000-wild sheep carcasses contaminated with scrapie, a disease the BSE. Within two weeks of the Alberta diagnosis, Agriculture Minister Ralph Goodale ordered the death of the 175 cattle exposed from Britain between 1982 and 1990. That included Gile, who came from Scotland in 1982. Kubi, a retired lawyer, challenged the order on the grounds that his bull never ate the contaminated feed. Last July, Federal Court Judge Max

Tekleffman quashed the decision to destroy Gile, ruling that it was "patently absurdly able," as was Ottawa's contention that BSE could incubate for the life of the animal. British and American veterinarians say BSE incubates for at most eight years. Five other cattle owners also challenged the government, arguing that it had exceeded its jurisdiction under the Health of Animals Act. They lost, and were forced to kill their cattle or export them to Britain.

That James Kubi's Gile is the last of the marked animals left in Canada. And it leaves Eric Brophy, acting chief of disease control at Agriculture Canada, adamant that the department will go all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada if necessary to put Gile down. And "if we lose the destruction order," he says, "we still haven't lost the quarantine order"—a reference to the agency's power to detain potentially diseased animals. Ben Thibault, senior health committee chairman of the Canadian Cattle Raisers' Association in Calgary, supports that position. "Canada has the highest health status of any major beef-producing country in the world," he says. "Given that we export 50 per cent of our production, we're very sensitive to anything that would be viewed as compromising that status."

Kubi is standing firm. His bull remains healthy, if lonely—Gile sometimes grows at a pampered stall with the company of cows. And Kubi wants to return Gile to spring and stare the bull's owner in a private hall. "If there was any reasonable suggestion that my bull should constitute a risk," says Kubi, "by God, he'd go down with my blessing." Blending or not, Agriculture Canada remains unmoved.

BAN HAWKINS/SHIRAZ in Gaspereville

Of course we're old-fashioned. We polish the burl walnut by hand.

This is the new *Glismoth*. The fine, 440000

The address: 10000 Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1P 1A1

PEOPLE

HIGHWAY TO COMEDY HEAVEN

Bette MacDonald has been compared to Carol Burnett, Bea Miller and John Candy. The Cape Breton-based comedian says that she is flattered by the comparisons to such legends, but adds that she has something they don't—an East Coast befriend. "There is something about being from 'ol East that lends itself to humor," she explains. "Maybe it's because we learn the secret of laughing at ourselves early on." Now, MacDonald, 30, who plays

different humorous characters, is making her debut Atlantic Canada, which she attributes to a growing touring schedule. "You know when you do comedy that being on the road is a part of it," MacDonald says. "You are either preparing to go on the road, you're on the road, you have just come off the road—or you are proving that you were funny enough last time and that you are going to get the call to do on the road again." There's no place like the stage.

MacDonald's
hoping and
preparing
to hit the
road—again



A REGULAR JOE FROM SAN DIEGO

When **Francine** Charles gave birth to her third child, in San Diego in 1990, she announced that she would call him **RePaul Andre** Charles. "And he's gonna be famous," she added. "Because there's another mother's son alive with a name like that." Today, her little boy is a stock, French drug dealer known simply as **RePaul**. After years of appearing in *Beavis* and performing as a

go-go dancer in New York City clubs, he is finally achieving mainstream success. He was just named as the "spokesmodel" for M.A.C. Cosmetics, representing the Toronto-based manufacturer of makeup in his campaign as male icon *RePaul Andre*. Paul will also release his autobiography, *Let's Hit It All Hard Out*, later this month. And he is appearing in *Man on the Moon* in a coming movie. To *RePaul*, *Thanks for Everything*. — **Julie Newman**, starring **RePaul Andre**, *Winkler* *Salpas* and *Adam* *Legislature* in their drug scenes. Despite his mounting success, **RePaul** remains modest. "I'm just a regular Joe," he says, "with the unique ability to accessorize."



RePaul:
finally
achieving
mainstream
success

STARTING YOUNG

According to scientist **Donald Sanku**, who has taken up preserving the environment as his life work, there is no time like the present. "I don't see a case of waiting for today's children to grow up and replace us in the fight," he says. "It's important that kids have input now." Sanku, who splits his time between Toronto and Vancouver, says that the recently released children's CD *Amazing Journey—Children Sing to the Best of the Earth*, which he narrates, is one tool to encourage an early start in environmentalism, such as *Class of Time*, which deals with the idea of making the world a better place. "While some of the content might be serious, it is presented in a way that is easy to listen to and sing along with," Sanku says. "We want to bring things into focus now." A timely message.



Sanku: not waiting
for the future

SPENDING TIME WISELY

Although a move to California interrupted **James Cameron's** Ontario high school education in 1973, the Hollywood director scored a warm welcome recently at his Niagara Falls shopping district. There, **Stanford College** named a theatre at its newly opened **Barbours** **Pratt** Communications Centre (named for another alumni) for Cameron, who directed such screen hits as *The Terminator*, *Terminator 2*, *True Lies* and *Alien*. Cameron con-



Cameron:
long-term
objective

fessed that while in school, he had slipped *Spidee* comics behind his textbooks. He also wrote an early version of his underwater thriller, *The Abyss*, during Grade 12 biology class. But his study habits appear to have paid off—Cameron sold his youthful audience that after 14 months of legal wrangling,

THE ARTS
AS SEEN BY



du Maurier Ltd.

Continuing a quarter century of commitment to artistic growth throughout Canada

Sow's ear, silk purse

THE BRIDGES OF MADISON COUNTY

Directed by Clint Eastwood

It is rare for a movie to deliver more emotional heat than the book on which it is based. More often than not, brilliant books get diminished when adapted for the screen. Conversely, mediocre books occasionally make good movies. Robert James Waller's ultra-light fiction, *The Bridges of Madison County*, has been on the hardcover bestseller list for two years now, with sales of nine million copies in 33 languages. It must have something going for it. The story—of a Iowa farm wife who has a rip-roaring love affair with an itinerant photographer in the 1940s—has an obvious appeal, as a kind of white-trash Harlequin romance. But Waller's prose reads like the wildest dream, with some of the most pretentious dialogue ever penned. The photographer is a sensitive, insouciant, Casanova-like, globe-trotting romantic poet who calls himself "the last cowboy" and punctuates his limerickish with such earnest ruminations as, "I can see the highway and a gateway, and all the seeds that ever went to sea."

Fortunately, lines like that do not make it to the screen version of *Bridges*. The movie—starring Meryl Streep and Clint Eastwood as Francesca and Robert—strikes the novel's own elegiac feelings, notably Waller's writing of a "wild, magnificent" "No longer does Robert feel obliged to enlighten her with an anachronistic New Man sermon about modern humans polluting the planet. There is still some chunky dialogue. But Eastwood, who depicts the film, isn't the story teller in a sense, elegant style, aka chemistry with Streep is credible, and she brings a shrewd intelligence to Francesca that was absent from the book.

The script's one embellishment is a framing device, in which Francesca's grown son and daughter are shocked to learn of the affair once her husband dies. Their scenes, which serve as comic intermissions at the romance, are unconvincingly cute. But they do their job—by enveloping the slow course of a story that is privileged a housewife's life at a time.



Eastwood, Streep: the seduction is a slow-burn delight

It is the summer of '65. Francesca, an Italian American, is left alone for a few days after her husband and two children go off to establish a prize store at a state fair. Robert, a National Geographic photographer who is shooting covered bridges, stops by her house to ask

her. Streep, in fact, has also killed the book because Francesca is "invisible" But in the script, by *The Fisher King* screenwriter Richard LaGravenese, she is a force to be reckoned with.

Streep, who transforms herself with a Latin accent and a stolid physicality, creates a character who seems wittily grounded. The actress brings Francesca out of the shadows and undercuts her vulnerability with a very, very sense of humor. The film Francesca has an edge. She is convinced, sooner than she lets on, and even as she is swept away by Robert's limerick charm, she sees right through it. The trick here has less to do with about running off with this man of the world "who wants every one but no one in particular."

Eastwood's role, meanwhile, is a bit of a stretch. In the waxy scenes (there are many), he appears to be straining to convey the requisite emotion. And, at it, he is a little too old for the part (Robert is 32 in the book). But the actor, who displays his rugged physique at pulchritudinous, is in excellent shape. Besides, he is cast as an icon as well as an actor. After directing his revisionist westerns, *Unforgotten* (1992), *Bridges* arrives like another act of passion at the twilight of his career once again. Dirty Harry is trying to come down.

Robert is supposed to represent a vanishing breed of American male, a cross between the Buddha and the Marlboro Man. In the novel, as a burned-in literary sherd, he is a creation of pure idea by a male writer. Eastwood, however, brings some modesty to the role. As a director and a performer, he gracefully defers to Streep: she is the movie's heart and soul. And it seems ironic that, while the young Eastwood craves pure romance for the first time in his career, Streep, a National Geographic photographer who is shooting covered bridges, stops by her house to ask

The Bridges of Madison County is a better movie than a book

for directions to one. She offers to take him there. His wistful if shy has the time "I was just going to have some land and... then sell the stars," she says. "But that can wait."

From that moment on, it is clear that the movie has reinvented Francesca's character. In the book, she is a captive hypnotized by Robert's limerick charms while he looks at her affection like a god. There is no conflict between them. She never punctuates his sym-

phony. In a world of limerick romantic confessions, it is refreshing to see a movie about a middle-aged woman craving romance until the dust settles of a third marriage. The story is made simple, just as simply read for emotion. It proceeds in three movements: seduction, consummation and separation. The seduction, also fused with awkward tension, is a delight. The consummation—the actual love part of the love story—gets to be a bare, a sleepless night of candlelight and sweat, and then an even less than that. The movie maps in the middle, the final scenes of bright separation are heartbreaking. And by the end, a river of tears has flowed beneath *The Bridges of Madison County*.

BRAND D. JOHNSON

Romance and ruin

The Shaw opens with sweetness—and murder

When George Bernard Shaw was born in Dublin in 1856, the Christian War was raging and Queen Victoria had barely reached middle age. When he died in 1950, the atomic bomb and television were realities. By being for nearly a century, Shaw was in a unique position to bear witness to the rise of modernity. But his longevity had no other effect. It made possible one of the most unworldly theatrical mandates anywhere. Now in its 34th season, the Shaw Festival at Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont., is dedicated to mounting plays by Shaw and his contemporaries. This has resulted not only in an eclectic mix of modern and Victorian works, but also in an unparalleled exploration of a historical period. The festival goes to the festival for a kind of saturation course in the social and intellectual conditions of Shaw's time, from the struggle for women's rights to the genesis of 20th-century nihilism.

Impressively, the festival has managed to do this not by recycling a small number of well-worn classics (as its rival, the Stratford Festival, tends to do), but by daring to revive lesser forgotten plays. This is a credit acknowledgment of the Shaw and of its gifted artistic director, Christopher Newman. And it is an irony, at least in part, that the one drama consistently beloved against the festival that it offers mainly old-fashioned "safe" (as can be seen at planning a holiday concert). Behind the pastiche, period costumes and sets, something much more relevant is being uncovered for those who care to look: the dark pages of the modern world.

As well, some of the plays offer a crystallization of past values. In this year's annual round of five productions (five more will open later), that is certainly true of *The Power of Darkness*, a dark romantic comedy by American John Van Druten. Successfully premiered on Broadway in 1942, it provides an exquisite reflection of what love could be like before AIDS, gay birth control and post-war cynicism. The play tells the story of a young actress, Sally, in provincial Asia. She is a beautiful, dark-skinned woman, and is constantly kissed by a young man, who is drawn together in Sally's New York

City apartment during the war. As they edge towards love (and hell) they engage in seductive games of business and espionage. Directed with success by Paul Langford, the play conceals its ancient themes and simple election for its characters that has all but disappeared from the contemporary stage.

A much larger and more ambitious production is *Shoreless Sea* (also directed by Newman). Despite its great energy, this



Karen Wood and Steven James in *The Zoo*, frantically

turn of the century comedy does not, truly capture the play's vision as any length as *Shoreless Sea*, *Heartbreak House* and other plays do. Rather, that offering spawned a multifaceted debate between characters, the play becomes through a look at Shaw's concerns, from the emancipation of women to the role of the British class system. Set in an English seaside town, *Shoreless Sea* focuses on three middle-class children who don't know who their father is, and three ladies, Fergus Crampton (Michael Ball) who does not want them to know. This production gets laughs largely by a social-climbing drama, *Valentine* (Richard Bland) is a wonderful portrait of a high-class, 19th-century girl. William Sharrack has created a slightly grotesque, an unusually dark blue man in the background. But the acting and design cannot make up for this year's dramatic confusion.

The Petrified Forest, a 1934 drama by Robert E. Sherwood, looks at the beleaguered state of the American dream during the Great Depression. Directed by Neil Munro, the play is set in a service station in the Arizona desert, where a young woman, Gabby, is unconvincingly suggestive. Tracy Stevens' dream of the end of the road, it comes too much with the arrival of a cynical failed writer, Alan Squier (Peter McKinnon) and some modernist painters led by Duke Manner (Jim Mesrobian). There is some fine acting here, but neither it nor Leslie Freamon's masterly set (featuring colorful, cracked weathered wood) can hide the work's lack of vital energy.

On the other hand, Edward Percy's and Reginald Denham's 1930 drama, *London as Revolution*, is a compelling tale of murder and desert in the Thames River estates in 1885. Unfortunately, its largely female cast

members seem to deliver their lines on the same note—shilliness. Festival coartney Jennifer Hughes catches the dark, determined strength of ambitious Ellen Crowl, but, disappointingly, fails to plumb the depths of her grief.

The fresher side of Victorian England is on display in the Grouse comic opera *The Zoo*, by Arthur Sullivan and librettist W.S. Gilbert. It is splendidly sung and includes a hilarious bit when a disguised British Lord (Todd Wain) visits too much and reveals to his wife. Very much of the current, the play has a forced, mechanical quality, the hard-party of Victorian Social reformers, endlessly prancing. This is one of those times when the Shaw Festival offers a glimpse of how life used to be—and the most likely reaction is relief at having escaped it.

JOHN REMBOUR

The car is shining, a gleaming jewel in black and chrome. It is a 1936 Buick ST Atlantic, and Pierre Thibierge, director of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, pauses to run a reflective eye over the Brooklands-style vehicle's fluid lines. "This is a masterpiece," he says, "inspired by Jean Bugatti at the company's factory in Alsace only a year before he died." His gaze lingers, following the smoothly flowing curves of fender and roof, the raised spine of riveting that stitches together the entire exotic creation and the curious passenger compartment, shaped like a shell with drooping eyes. "They threw out the rule book on this one," he says. "We're looking at pure form here, a sculpture as much as one. Of all the pieces in our exhibit, the Atlantic is probably the one that most closely approaches the ideal of absolute perfection in automobile design."

There are other examples of that ideal currently on display at the Montreal museum, 49 of them to be exact. A collection of some 100 cars, weird, ultra-wonderful machines, each one an experiment in automotive design, the show is scattered over two floors of the MMFA's north pavilion. Titled *Moving Beauty*, it looks at the evolution of the automobile from a fresh perspective, as a way late creation rather than a product of the technological revolution, from its inception in the late-19th century to the present preoccupation with the automobile's impact on the environment. And in the process, the show has captured Montreal's artistic community, while clearly delighting the city's public at large.

If dealmaker figures are any guide, *Moving Beauty* may well turn out to be one of the most successful exhibits mounted by the MMFA. More than 35,000 people have visited the show since its May 11 opening, and close to 200,000 are expected by the time it finally goes to glimpse the 50 cars on display have become routine. Even before the exhibit's launch, \$1.2 million in sponsorships had been arranged, a record for the museum. Thibierge, who conceived and designed *Moving Beauty* himself, makes no attempt to dispute his hopes that the show will turn a profit. "What's wrong with that?" he shrugs. "It's no secret that we could use the money."

Money, in fact, is at the heart of the entire debate about *Moving Beauty*. The show carries a \$3-million price tag—for insurance, shipping, research and publicity. What is more, it opened a month before an equally expensive exhibit, a \$3.2 million showing of European Symbolist art in the MMFA's north pavilion, across the street. While corporate sponsorships have helped to cover some of the costs, the museum was also hit this year by a \$1.5-million cut to its \$14.9-million



1936 Buick ST Atlantic, closest to the ideal of absolute perfection

the museum's contemporary art pavilion to make way for the automobiles. "The car is so much a part of our lives that we really don't see it for what it is," he explains. "I wanted to get people to step back and look at the car as an object that has been conceived and designed—created, in short." Thibierge says that the idea dawned during an exhibition the museum staged in 1991, The 1930s: Age of the Automobile. "There was a Buick in that show," he says, "and I was suddenly struck by the astonishing number of connections that could be made between the car and Art Deco. It occurred to me that the automobile would be an ideal subject for an exhibition that would treat it as an independent subject, outside the history of machines and technology."

Moving Beauty is the result of that original inspiration

Thibierge assembled the collection himself, after sifting public and private collections in Canada as well as in the United States, Britain, France, Germany and Italy. "The Buick Atlantic is owned by designer Ralph Lauren, while a 1941 Chrysler Newport, part of the collection of the Wilson F. Hursh Foundation, once belonged to actress Lucie Arnaz."

The very first automobile ever assembled by an internal combustion engine is on display, an 1886 Benz (this is the only car covering the 1910, and much more than a motorized bicycle). At the other end of the scale in both time and vision is a 1967 Cadillac Eldorado Biarritz, the epitome of the North American consumer society's dreams of abundance and prosperity. In between are all manner of creations, ranging from 11 famed classics such as the 1928 Chrysler Airflow, the 1936 Ford Westchander and the 1948 Tucker, to the designs of lesser-known, but outrageously expensive, Porsche and Ferrari masterpieces, which range in price from \$50,000 to \$700,000.

Among the most bizarre in appearance are a trio of revolutionary vehicles from the early years of the century. The 1914 Alfa Romeo 6, commissioned by an Italian count, is a silver egg on wheels straight out of a Jules Verne novel. The 1916 Miller Golden Submarine, built for American racing legend Barney Oldfield, grips its seat like a roller coaster. The 1921 Ruppel Tropfenwagen, a teardrop-shaped vehicle, recalls the possibilities that long from the



1947 Fiat 1100S, 50: from public and private collections around the world



1936 Ford V8 Westchander; 1954 Mercedes-Benz 300 SL Roadster (left); 1914 Alfa Romeo 6



bellies of the dirigibles of the same period. These vehicles were early experiments in aerodynamics, placing them well ahead of their bulky contemporaries, vehicles including the ubiquitous Ford Model T, which dominated automobile design in both Europe and the United States at the time.

Thibierge argues that the automobile, throughout its history, has conformed to two basic morphological types. The first, which has given rise to the vast majority of cars on the road today, resulted from the natural evolution of replacing the horse on the buggy with an engine. But the second, which inspired the MMFA's exhibit, is entirely removed from the concept of the harness carriage, and involves principles of aerodynamics or, rather, a combination of the two. "Most of the cars you see around here exemplify this truly revolutionary, experimental and prototypical automobile," he says. "In short, the ideal car."

That is precisely why Thibierge chose to display the new cars he has assembled in such a spare setting. The walls contain only brief descriptions of the cars themselves. There has been no attempt to link the individual vehicles to the artistic movements that influenced their design. For those who have criticized the exhibit, that is a fatal flaw. But, argues Thibierge, "The form is the key concept here. The whole point is that these cars are sculpture, objects of art to be gazed at in search of form, not function, not driven." On that count at least, *Moving Beauty* is as fascinating a concept as many of the creations in glass, steel and leather that it contains.

BARRY CADE

Russian roué

A celebrated writer maintains an appetite for life

BY ANTHONY WILSON SMITH

If Tolstoy or Yevushenko did not exist, another author might have invented him as the central character in one of those sweeping epics that Russian writers adore. The problem would be that, as a work of fiction, Yevushenko's real life strains credulity. A literary superstar in Russia since his teens, he attracts stadium crowds of up to 30,000 for his poetry readings. He moonlights as an actor, director, screenwriter and political activist. And his passion for life includes dining significant parts of it in the company of women and good wine. Appropriately for someone whose achievements seem huge, his life, he is, at six foot three inches, larger than most people around him, dressed in exotic, electric manner that would do the lead singer of a rock band proud, and, with his famous piercing blue eyes confined at age 63, his just as much stage presence. As befits someone who has spent close to half a century being acclaimed, Yevushenko lives at ego in keeping with his achievements. "I am the spiritual grandfather of Pushkin," he says, cheerfully likening himself to the man generally regarded as Russia's greatest writer.

Sometimes, although not always, the quality of Yevushenko's writing approaches the level of his work as a poet. As a poet, his work has ranged from the sublime, such as his 1981 epic *Beh: Tien*—dealing with Russian and German anti-Semitism during the war—to the unimaginable, including much of the work he did in the 1930s. Yevushenko himself once cheekily declared that his poetry is 70 per cent "garbage" and 30 per cent "OK." His new book, *Don't Die Before You're Dead* (Key Porter, 308 pages, \$28.95), sounds a note to grow. It also lives up to another of Yevushenko's assurances—that he reflects Russia's troubled soul. "People may like this book, or they may not," he said in the course of a recent two-hour interview in Toronto. "Either way, they should accept that it represents Russia the way it is."

On an level, in title reflects Yevushenko's concern that Russians, scared to a life of constant fear and depression during



Yevushenko, poet, activist, lover of wine and women

the worst years of the old Soviet Union, after the spiritual death before their physical one. It is also the advice that "that," this book's most vivid character, gives to her suicidal lover, a former secret star named Prokhor Gerasimovich. Sprawling, baroque, occasionally overwrought, and filled with black humor, *Don't Die Before You're Dead* sweeps through daily life in the former Soviet Union from the brutal World War until the early 1990s. In the process, Yevushenko evokes a character and often brilliant panoply of emotions and characters. All are instantly easy to relate to anyone familiar with the inherently challenging and daunting qualities of everyday existence in Russia.

The central event of the book is the brutal real-life case of August, 1991, by a group of brilliant Communists discredited with the

fall of the Soviet Union to its former status as a world power. In fact, more than anyone else, they haunted its dissolution.

But Yevushenko spends little time investigating the event's historical importance. Rather, it serves as a backdrop and catalyst for the manner in which ordinary people confront an extraordinary event. The record is raised to those who joined current Russian President Boris Yeltsin in thanking the parish ranged from Yevushenko himself and other favored figures in the old Soviet empire to smugglers, black market operators and those motivated by little more than a keen eye for the main chance. At the time of the coup, Yevushenko writes, the country was, in the balance, "divided into three countries. One was frightened and wanted to return to yesterday. The second did not yet know what tomorrow would be like, but did not want to return to yesterday. The third was waiting."

Much of the public discussion of the book so far has centred on Yevushenko's portraits of such big names as Gorbachev, former Soviet Foreign Affairs Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and President Boris Yeltsin. They are written in a breezy manner that makes them more palatable, such as speculation on the forces that affected Gorbachev early in life, with an easy mix of anecdote and insight that reflects the intimate access Yevushenko had to top levels of the Soviet leadership. Yevushenko also reveals, overall, a fan of all three men, despite the fact that he declined a medal from Yeltsin last year as a protest against Russian army behavior in Chechnya. "Yeltsin," he says, "is a good man, but we need a jewel, not an idiot, not a new Yevushenko also confesses to regret over the breakup of the Soviet Union, "but for what it was, but for the brotherhood of different groups that it could have been."

Yevushenko's closest with former Soviet leaders also serves as a reminder of the secretaries that some Russians still harbor towards him. That resentment is based on the fact that he lived a privileged life in the former regime even while presenting himself as one of its most ardent critics. Of that, Yevushenko says wisely, "people should look at my record." They cannot say I only pretended to criticize when the record shows so clearly that I spoke against bad policies very publicly many times."

The real charm of *Don't Die Before You're Dead*, and Yevushenko's strength as a writer, lies in the skill with which he reflects the contradictory elements that are for central of the Russian soul. The book's wit, candor and enduring figures are both

Boning up on osteoporosis

The time to head off osteoporosis, the menace of many older women, is in the teenage years.

Many of our most women, enter adulthood with their bones already on the living side because they failed to consume enough calcium in adolescence, when bone development reaches its biological peak. If lifestyle trends of today's youth hooked on junk foods and diet sodas, continue unabated, osteoporosis threatens to be one of the biggest public health menaces of modern times. Get yourself and your entire family building better bones now!

By monitoring a nutritious calcium-rich diet and exercise plan, you can help forestall the weakened bones of osteoporosis.



Are you at risk?

"Yes" answers indicate increased risk of osteoporosis.

- Female?
- Caucasian or Asian?
- Slender, with small bones?
- Low-calcium diet?
- Lower estrogen levels because of menopause?
- Physically inactive?
- A cigarette smoker?
- Family history of osteoporosis?
- Too much caffeine or alcohol?

WARNING SIGNS: ADVANCED OSTEOPOROSIS

- Early detection of osteoporosis is difficult. Some of the most common signs of advanced osteoporosis include:
- a broken vertebra or ribs
 - back pain (which is the risk to lower spine)
 - loss of height (more than one inch)
 - a stooped, round shoulder and appearance
 - a hump forming in the back

Is there a test for osteoporosis?

A bone density test provides the most accurate test for predicting osteoporosis. It measures the amount of bone in the lower spine or hip, which determines your risk of fracture. The test is similar to an X-ray and is very safe.

If you have more than three risk factors or any signs of osteoporosis, you should ask your doctor

A calcium rich diet might include

8 oz (250 ml) glass of milk + 1/2 oz (14g) cheese + 1/2 can salmon with bones = More than 1,000mg calcium. Add a handful of almonds, or sprouts in a serving of yogurt and you'll be getting your daily requirement of calcium.

Worried about fat? Try lower versions of milk products. Lactose intolerant? Try using yogurt or drinking milk that has been treated with the enzyme lactase.

A bone-building workout

Weight-bearing exercises, like walking, help build bones and muscles as the lower part of the body. It is also important to build strength in your shoulders, chest, back and arms as well. Strength training, two to three times a week, as part of a daily exercise program, helps maintain bone and muscle tissue.

Vitamin D - Calcium's Helper

Vitamin D helps your body use calcium. A 15 minute daily walk outdoors on a bright day and your body will make all the vitamin D it needs. Milk also contains vitamin D as do most multivitamins.



Partners in Building Better Bones

MERCK FROSST



Daily Bureau of Canada

The Osteoporosis Society of Canada is here to help. Call 1-800-463-8378 for more information.



Osteoporosis Society of Canada

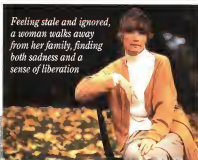
fictional the multi-faceted, disillusioned and alcoholic Zalyan, and Rust, an eerily and physically imposing woman whose determination and strength of character only very occasionally falters. Zalyan's weaknesses, and the paradox of her devotion to him, her sickness drives from her promise to be "the best first is always waiting for you" fail, their relationship is ultimately doomed to less than ideal results than Yermolenko's, their story would be sappy. But the author knows his characters too well to allow that, and their relationship is all the more compelling for the fact that he empathizes their lives. Yermolenko, who has been married for nine years to his fourth wife, Masha, a physician (they have two children), says that Zalyan "is really me." And Rust "is a woman who loved me really, and who I did not have the good sense to love back until it was too late."

Other fictional characters include Sapan Pichukov, a Moscow police officer who runs the risk of the creep machine. He is a classic figure in detective fiction: the weary cop who borrows himself to his job to hide from a disintegrating marriage. Yevgen, recalling himself also appears, in first person, shedding his role in the events. Few other authors would have the cheek to include themselves not once, but in two different characters, in the same book.

With his tenderness for epic tragedy and layered prose, and his eagerness to mine the depths of the Russian soul, Yermolenko is an obvious heir to a literary tradition of tragic page splendor and doom that extends back to such figures as Dostoyevsky and Pushkin. But Yermolenko is a highly contradictory man. Despite the despair that suffuses some of his writing, he maintains a huge appetite for life. His angry insistence with the weak passage of time is coupled with concern over how much he has lost. "I hate death as a monster which suffocates me," he says. "I pray and pray every day that I will get at least 35 more years of life. With that, I could drive 10 more films, write five more novels."

His new episode ends of each year teaching Russian studies at the University of Tulsa in Oklahoma, describing himself as "the little man citizen of the world." Considering that he speaks fluent English, French and Spanish as well as Russian, and that he has worked in more than 15 different languages, that may be true. And he delights in recounting the fact that American author John Steinbeck, shortly before his death, predicted to Yermolenko, then known only as a poet, that he would one day become known as "the great writer of prose." "You see," says Yermolenko after a great evening of a chess of the great is who, "I must have more time, to build my destiny, and Steinbeck's prediction." He says that his sequel to this book, which he has already started writing, will be called *Don't Die After You're Dead*. And Yermolenko hopes to take that advice personally. □

Feeling state and ignored, a woman walks away from her family, finding both sadness and a sense of liberation



Tyler: exploring the price an individual pays for the joys of domesticity

Exile of the heart

LOOKER OF YEARS

By Anne Tyler
(Fiction, 320 pages, \$29.95)

Some writers oppress with the scope of their ambition, while others create dazzling imaginary worlds. But American author Anne Tyler deftly balances her scope of the little things in life. In *Looker of Years*, not her previous 12 novels, Tyler seeks to enlighten by looking up a mirror to our all-too-familiar world. She invites readers to take another look, from another angle, to see if they might find day-to-day existence a little less banal, a little stronger, a little more touching than they had first thought.

Della Grantland, the novel's main character, is a middle-aged woman impugned at the edges, with an indifferent marriage, nerdy children, and coldfishes decimating the margins of her life. In some ways she is a carbon copy of Maggie, the empty-nested heroine of Tyler's Pulitzer Prize-winning 1988 novel *Breathing Lessons*. But where Maggie struggled to draw her loved ones back to her, Della is motivated by "that painful sort of fury you feel when you've been hurt or misled or betrayed or provoked."

During a fairly sunny, bed-finding holiday afternoon, Della struts out of her old world and into a new one. Gradually she recovers herself, allowing mischief and vulnerability to guide her choices: new town, new home, new job, new friends.

This is, of course, the stuff of tricky romance novels: what would it be like to start all over again? Thankfully, Tyler does not write overly loose romantic or otherwise. In a convincing yet understated way, the author carefully presents both the sadness and elation of Della's predicament: the small but daily indignities that drive her into an exile that feels like liberation; the precise pain (and sometimes relief) that she experiences in having left her loved ones behind.

But it is the details that really breathe life into this story. The point of view throughout is that of an outsider, an alien, travelling at the restaurant pepper salt "in his car as a rule," the way the children's section of a library glimmers because of the "Scottish tape holding the littered picture books together." In fact, it is these details—the halting poetry of everyday lives—that are often the best part of Tyler's fiction.

Yet, some readers will find *Looker of Years* too safe and predictable. By focusing attention on the little things, the author also tends to limit the novel's resonance. Even with her poignant theme—the price an individual pays for the joys of family life—Tyler seldom reaches deep enough to move a beating heart.

Nevertheless, her latest novel is an accomplished work. With its modest intentions and understated prose, *Looker of Years* is as quietly pleasurable as a classy conversation with a dear old friend.

TIM WYSTEEN

WE BATTLE CANCER DAILY. WE NEED 5 MILLION DOLLARS NOW. SO WHY ARE WE SMILING?

**BECAUSE WITH YOUR HELP,
PRINCESS MARGARET —
THE CANCER HOSPITAL CAN WIN
THE BATTLE.**

After all over half our patients are now being cured of cancer, thanks to improved research and quality of care. But maintaining that quality in the face of soaring demand is stretching us critically thin.

Our new home on University Avenue in downtown Toronto is almost complete. We have successfully raised \$45 million of \$50 million needed to build a five-story new Princess Margaret Hospital in November.

**GIVE NOW TO SUPPORT
THE FINEST CANCER RESEARCH AND
CARE IN THE WORLD.**

You'll help expand new treatment and research facilities. The result? We will be

able to treat 7,000 new patients per year. And 5 full floors will be devoted strictly to research, tripling the current space.

So you help ensure the hospital's continued successes:

- Like the first trials to prove that Hodgkin's Disease is curable by radiation treatment. The cure rate has risen from 29% to 75%.

- Or the demonstration that hyperthermia with radiation treatment is as effective as radiotherapy in early stage breast cancer. So thousands of women worldwide have been spared unnecessary breast amputations.

The list of Princess Margaret Hospital's successes, grand and personal, goes on and on. It goes as high and the courage to smile.

**BE THE FIRST AGAINST CANCER HAS
NEVER BEEN BIGGER. WE NEED
YOUR HELP NOW.**

1 in 3 Canadians will develop some type of cancer during their lifetime. 2 in 3 families will be affected by this ruthless disease.

Thank about those statistics. No wonder Princess Margaret Hospital can't cope with the current demand for services. The truth is, many of our patients simply can't wait a moment longer for our new hospital. They mustly need your help now.

"Thank you
Princess Margaret Hospital
from the bottom of my heart."
—Cancer Society, Cancer Survivor

This space was donated by friends of PMH.
Photography by Brian Smith.
Print distributed by Bruce Davidson.

So please call Princess Margaret — The Cancer Hospital at (416) 926-6560 right now, with any donation, large or small. Give as much as you can. Provide hope and a home for Canada's most courageous fighters.

**Please
Give Now.
Princess Margaret —
The Cancer Hospital.**



Name _____
Address _____
City _____
Post Code _____
Phone () _____
Donation Amount
Cheque \$ _____
Method of Payment
13 Cheque 14 Gift 15 Debit 16 Credit Card
Credit Card # _____
Cardholder's Name _____

Call (416) 926-6560

We need you now!
Toronto, Ontario M6G 2G6
or Tel: (416) 926-6560

**Princess Margaret —
The Cancer Hospital.**



The pleasure of Portugal

BY ALLAN FOTHERINGHAM

Things are very simple in the Algarve in Portugal. There are only three colours. All the buildings are a blinding white. All the cliffs are orange, for the sun comes on all the red cliffs and all the buildings. All the sea is blue. It's very simple.

It's not really a sea, of course, on this stretch of paradise that is the most south western point in Europe. It is the Atlantic Ocean, moving east towards its meeting with the Mediterranean at Gibraltar. It will do.

Carvoeiro, once a fishing village, seems the right spot for the regular tourist transplant, hence place that DJ and CNN cannot reach. No news of the Gambia election, which is about to throw out the incisors and throw in a new bunch of pencils. No telephone, in fact, on the premises. It will do.

The cars like it. Carvoeiro looks like the world's convention of cars. Shiny out of the bushes, stalling the alleys, independently appearing beside the pool are small, shiny cars, but with sleek coats that indicate they eat quite well—according to the local cat expert.

An English only in a small village in Portugal. It has a large sign of a cat on top. Named after it, it seems clear, Margo Jerry, the ruler cat from T. S. Eliot who resided in a Andromeda Lloyd Webber's Cat.

It must be realised that there has been a long connection between the firm and the Portuguese. The special relationship goes back more than 600 years. The Treaty of Windsor, signed in 1386, pledged their permanent alliance and friendship and effectively stopped Spain's further incursions into the Iberian Peninsula.

King John I of Portugal stopped the Castilians marching on the road to Lisbon in 1385—he was aided by a detachment of English archers. It is not far afooting that the English are today the world's largest consumers of port. Hence it is the archers.

All this must be explained to get the genius of Carvoeiro today, which is essentially a British colony supported by the beach. There are all those British cars with their strange leathery of wearing seats and their strange leathery of



color of baked salmon on their foreheads, chests and ample bellies, they persist stubbornly with socks under their sandals. In this a religious ideal? A social duty? One is forever puzzled. Hence it is the archers.

At Albufeira, 35 minutes away, there are the Saturday afternoon bullfights. ("The bull is not killed" shout the posters, for fear—one supposes—that any squeamish patron may think they are still in Spain.) The black benches instead are leased from horseback, the most elegant, dancing horses, every mare. A horse with long legs going in elegant circles can always escape a short-legged, and stupid, bull.

In case there is a problem, the bull brochure advertises "Wings—next to the bull ring." The Portuguese know their Bata. Six hundred years of prosperity have taught them the lessons. Their parallel archers.

It is the FA Cup Final at Margo's, live from Wembley, Manchester United vs. Everton.

ten. It is Mercedes reduced to inkblot. The Boss. He bows. Red-faced into his inkblot colors below. Why does anyone have to leave England? Except for the weather.

There is Ned, a Scottish computer systems engineer with an accent thicker than the smink-and-lard. He has spent 17 years in Germany, France and the United States for IBM, instructing other bosses. A son was in law school in California. No, he says, he did not produce Nick Lennon. He has been here three months.

The party at Margo's, if serious, moved on. Carvoeiro's bar hours being flexible on such occasions. It ended, as he recalls, at 03:00 a.m. He then walked five kilometres home up the hill. It's better than Edinburgh where, as he recalls, "there are two types of rain—vertical and horizontal."

All the cars are Mercedes. Not a turbid car can be found, a fish that Castilians had never heard of and Castilians' rentalists would never serve but has made Bruno Tuber a prime presidential candidate. Such is basic. The oranges are too good to eat, the strawberries undesirable.

The high point of the day is the arrival of the London papers. It's the only place I've ever been where the newspapers cost more than the food. The locals can't miss the latest rapid scandal. It's why the town's newspaper cover vacations in Algarve in the Caribbean, where there are no hotel beds.

One feels sorry for the outnumbered Germans, in Greece and in Spain, they can outlast the Brits out speed them, the two kinds (correctly) raising into one another in criticism when they have only one common ground—the sun.

At the town square, close by the beach, there is Bully's, where at the south of the rear are patrons who look as if they want to burst into flames up Margo Jerry at any moment. Behind the bar, under the lamp of a lantern, is Pinaro, who is from Algarve—a former Portuguese colony.

A young man, he has been here 22 years, the Carvoeiro beaches very hard to resist. He has a girlfriend in Austria, but undeniably can't stand the sun. It's under at Bully's.

It is not impossible to describe the beach, most beaches carved out by the Atlantic from the towering orange cliffs on the Algarve. One day, climbing down the cliffs to the playlike sand and the surf and the Atlantic, there is considered a thin and concerned tourist, spending time of casual food for the ever-present flat cats with sleek coats once again from the beaches.

There'll always be an England.

Forty-one firefighters couldn't put it out.



Baked Drenched Tamed to the extreme. A Motorola cellular phone stands tough as the face of torture. Just ask Danette Bebe whose phone came back from the ashes of a three-alarm fire. Motorola. The best-selling, most preferred cellular phones in the world.




MOTOROLA

The renaissance of expressionism.



The all-new Acura TL Series

Driven by the belief that design need not be cold and calculated, but passionate and consuming, our engineers have created the purest expression of their craft. With the Acura TL Series, purpose is ardently elevated to an art form. Every function has earned its place. Yet, style and substance converge harmoniously. Experience a new spirit of touring sedans, the Acura TL Series, at your Acura dealer. Designed with purpose. Driven by passion.  ACURA